

*Academic Affairs Committee Year-End Report  
Academic Year 2022-2023  
Nabilah Carlon and Colleen Reid, co-chairs*

TO: Tiffany Beechy and Lynne Howard  
FROM: Nabilah Carlon and Colleen Reid  
DATE: May 18, 2023  
RE: Annual Report from the Academic Affairs Committee of the Boulder Faculty Assembly

**Overview:**

As first time co-chairs, we attempted to be more involved with the BFA. This year, the AAC was slightly more active than the past year, though we were still fairly quiet. We are a small committee with only 4 active members. We met as a committee on three occasions (August 30, October 27, and January 17) and successfully recruited a new member. Overall, we provided feedback on several policies though we did not spearhead any particular projects.

During our August 30, 2022 meeting, we discussed the MAPs to HEAR transition. We made recommendations to keep 2 years of foreign language as part of the admissions process; Katherine Eggert took this to completion. We introduced the course duplication policy, but this was later spearheaded by the BFA Chair, Tiffany Beechy, leading to the Campus Curriculum Committee proposal that was voted on at the end of the 2023 academic year. We raised a concern about the 35%/65% policy whereby all departments need to ensure that 35% of their courses are taught outside of prime hours - on the evenings and early mornings. We brought up that it's a challenge for instructors who are parents, busing issues for commuting students, some safety issues. But then instructors who are not parents are asked to teach and this may have a negative impact on the relationship between parents/non-parents and unfair to those who are not parents. Committee members in the administration thought that this was not an issue and said that there was student demand for this policy. We would like to see data showing student support/demand for later class times, but it was not further discussed.

During our October 27, 2022 meeting, the committee reviewed proposed changes to APS 1040 (intellectual property that is instructional material). We sent recommendations to BFA Chair Tiffany Beechy on October 21, 2022. The late withdrawal policy was also discussed. We agreed with the registrar that the policy should be consistent across colleges and schools on campus to not have a deadline and allow students to initiate late withdrawals. The registrar then set to implement that policy.

During our January 17, 2023 meeting, we reviewed the policies and webpages on Student Conduct as requested by people in that office. The AAC wrote up recommendations for potential changes to this policy. We intended to meet with the Student Affairs Committee of the BFA on this topic, but that didn't happen this year. We recommend that this be revisited by the AAC in the 2023-2024 academic year.

During that meeting, we also met with Mike Klymkowsky, a faculty member in MCDB, who reached out to us about his concerns regarding educational responsibility. He wanted to put a

responsibility on departments to improve instructional quality by asking departments to provide an annual review 3-5 page report summarizing student success and efforts to improve undergraduate teaching. The AAC agreed with his concerns about evaluation and improvement of undergraduate teaching on campus, however, his presentation was focused on his department's policies on pre-requisites and overlapped with current efforts on campus focusing on the same concerns. However, we decided not to bring it to ExComm. We emailed him on January 23 thanking him for taking his time to present and we thought that the aims of his proposal coincided with several other efforts on campus; we encouraged him to reach out to CTL and also Katherine and Daryl as we thought those groups would be better able to address his concerns. He responded "I am frustrated - Have to decide how to respond (and include administrators)" which was concerning because neither of the chairs have job security at this time. We reached out to BFA leadership who advised us to not respond further.

### **Topics and Projects:**

MAPS to HEAR (complete)  
Consistent late withdrawal policies across campus (complete)  
Course Duplication policy - taken over by BFA chair and resolved with Campus Curriculum Committee  
Intellectual property that is instructional material policy approved (complete)  
35/65% policy - raised but needs to be returned to next year.  
Student Conduct Policy (in progress)

### **Looking forward:**

There are many important issues that the AAC will need to deal with in the coming years, but the AAC needs a leader who can take on those issues and get people to join and participate in the committee. It would be helpful to have someone who has been on a different BFA committee and thus knows how a functioning committee works to do this. Several ideas for membership of this committee were raised at the ExCom meeting on April 24, 2023.

### **Membership:**

#### Active Members during 2022-2023 academic year:

Nabilah Carlon, co-chair  
Colleen Reid, co-chair  
Alec Kroll  
Shivakant Mishra  
Merinda McLure

#### Inactive Members during 2022-2023 academic year:

Hannah Haynie  
Christian Hammons

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Susan Nevelow-Mart

Resources:

Katherine Eggert

Daryl Maeda

Michelle Moses

Kathryn Pieplow

Kristi Wold-McCormick