

## **C-FSC Educational Policies and Faculty/Student Relations Committee**

Date: November 05, 2018

Members: Scott Illingworth (Chair), Spiros Frangos, John Gershman, Fidelindo Lim, Noelle Molé Liston

The committee met on October 26th. John Gershman, Scott Illingworth, Fidelindo Lim, and Noelle Molé Liston were present.

### **REPORT**

The committee continues to gather data on how the spring admit pilot program is impacting contract faculty in relevant departments and what existing local policies about Add Comp, Paid/Unpaid leave, and course reductions might alter both explicit and implicit expectations about workload and schedule if the program were to expand.

In addition to current areas of engagement, the committee discussed some items of interest to assess if they might fall under the purview of the committee. These included the differing nature of advising as a part of contract faculty workload from school to school and how language related to 'service' in contracts impact contract renewals. We also discussed how faculty might help provide students social and political context for the portals/sites if they have been there and/or taught there. We discussed other potential ways faculty might engage with students to increase/improve retention including a fund that would support excursions out of the classroom for academically related cultural or artistic events.

Members Gershman and Illingworth met with MJ Knoll Finn, members of her team, and members of the T-FSC committee to discuss ongoing areas of interest for MJ's office. She presented data related to the University's efforts to improve undergraduate retention including by demographic and major 'stumble courses'. The team discussed the value of the NYUConnect system for collaborating with colleagues and generating data that can help identify students who might be struggling before more obvious signs occur.

They also shared an upcoming initiative to ensure proper reporting of student engagement as required by federal law. Starting this spring, faculty will need to confirm that the students on the roster of each class are, in fact, enrolled and attending. This is related to federal student aid funding. The specifics of the faculty's role is still in process and every effort is being made to ensure the administrative burden is as small as possible.

We also raised the issue of unintended consequences from the spring admit pilot program, including the potential loss of unpaid leave in departments where these new students create additional need for spring faculty.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Illingworth