

Minutes from Academic Freedom Committee Meeting, 3.3.21

Present: Professors Clock, Chaparro, Conte

The meeting began at 2:00 pm.

I. College-Wide Grade Change Request, F to WU inquiry

A. We discussed this request, which was widespread across the College in February regarding Fall, 2020, grades.

1. The questions we have are:
 - a. The motivation behind the request;
 - b. Where the information was gleaned from.
2. We will request this information from Dean Berg.

II. Professors' Use of ZOOM features

A. We had an inquiry from a professor who had a student who "demanded" that the professor allow use of CHAT during ZOOM classes, which the professor does not want to do.

B. With ZOOM being so new, our Committee wants to establish a policy that professors have freedom about what features they use within ZOOM, just as they would have freedom in the physical classroom space.

1. We are considering a Resolution to be presented to the full Academic Senate to establish policy (again because ZOOM is so new) that professors cannot be required to use ZOOM features that they do not wish to and that ZOOM class sessions be viewed the same way as a physical class setting vis a vis professors' decisions on how to run the class.

2. We will seek guidance from the EC for exact wording of the potential Resolution.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Professor Clock, 3/8/21.