

All College Council
Feb. 23, 2021
Via Google Meets

Present: Brooke Anderson, Brandy Wrightson, Hilda Lander, Edgar Soto, Jeff Thies, Michael Lopez, Gloria Coronado, Sage Hawkins and Lisa Brosky

AP 1.01.03 Discussion

All College Council was presented with a revised version of AP 1.01.03 for comment. Members were unclear what changes had been made and asked for a version that showed the strikes and additions. Seth provided a [copy available here](#).

Discussion Return to Campus

Members held a robust discussion on approaching a return to campus.

The plan for Fall is a full return of classes, with the caveat that 40 percent of classes are PimaOnline and remain virtual. This was a pivot from an initial planning for a 50 percent max return.

Jeff Thies offered that deans and faculty are exploring the modalities where students perform best. Those classes where students perform best in person are being prioritized, but virtual will be an option for a while if not permanently.

The Fall will remain a variety of classes, including hybrid.

There was some discussion of hyflex classroom, but the College isn't fully committing to that for fall because of the required technology upgrades and, as noted in All College Council, the pedagogy must work for the modality and professional development for faculty will be needed. In a true hyflex classroom students can opt to be in class or synchronously online.

Jeff also reported from his division that libraries and learning centers and tutoring will not come back fully. There will still be virtual aspects and those virtual services have performed very well.

Sage Hawkins asked about grading plans being discussed by the governor's office and whether making letter grades optional was something Pima students could choose. At this point, Pima's grading system is unchanged.

Hilda Ladner mentioned that the Governor's office may have been referring to grading for schools and not students and that it would not happen this year, because of the pandemic.

Michael Lopez asked if students had been surveyed on their thoughts about returning. It was thought some surveying had been done by STAR. Lisa Brosky was going to inquire.

There were questions about airflow and using bigger classes. Jeff noted that the federal CARISSA funds could help with some mitigation efforts. He also noted facilities had been looking at using our larger spaces to every extent possible. Planning continues.

Brooke Anderson mentioned the concerns of “vaccinated-mixed” families, where the faculty member might be vaccinated but other members of the home might not be. There is concern about returning to a full classroom and then going home to a potential vulnerable family member. This was especially a concern for multi-generational households.

This led to discussion about whether a faculty member could be virtual and the class in person, if they chose. While Brooke liked the option, she also noted that teaching virtually presented more pedagogical challenges that she and others anticipated and that would have to be considered by such a hybrid situation.

“I am an experienced online teacher and experienced in-person and I thought virtual would be easy, but it was a bigger challenge than I expected. I didn’t always have the tools I needed,” she said.

Hilda Ladner noted that Arizona State University had issues with an overly flexible schedule where faculty or students could choose in be a classroom or not. Students were not coming to class.

Discussion also include what campus/building ingress and egress would look like with more people coming back to campus. Throughout the pandemic, everyone has moved through a single check point where their temperatures are checked and they receive a wristband. With more people on campus, potential long lines would make this process difficult.

Brandy Wrightson also noted that taking temperatures hasn’t been effective since many young people can remain asymptomatic.

Further there was discussion of how to mandate masks and that if the College continues to mandate masks, as expected, there need to options on how to manage non-compliance.

However, it was noted that we were considering these scenarios in the COVID-19 world we are experiencing today and not what could be five or six months from now when more people are vaccinated and cases are nearly non-existent.

Brooke also noted the importance of giving attention to emotional well-being, noted that some students have felt traumatized by not having a choice in accepting virtual instruction. She also noted that coming back together will be emotional. It will be important in this process to build a culture of support, especially in spaces or situations where people initially might not feel safe.

Brandy Wrightson noted the ELT program has been on campus for a long time and acknowledged that mobility is challenged by the need to physically distance. Things like using the copier and other routine tasks have been interrupted.

Members wanted to know what the expectations of an on-campus presence would be. Virtual meetings have proven to be effective. Could faculty office hours be virtual, for example?

Sage said it would be helpful if students could receive more information on when/where/how to obtain a vaccine. She also wanted to know if the College would be provide masks/face covering.

Brandy's concern was the logistics of cleaning supplies and decontamination after each class, down to how to safely remove gloves after using cleaning products.

Other topics"

Edgar Soto said 3 to 6 students a day have been using the on-campus wi-fi station and he would like to encourage more use. He also mentioned reaching out area high schools to reassure them that we can serve them as they want to be served.

Jeff Thies: Morgan Phillips tasked Jeff with leading a digital literacy program for students. The College also is shift to the AACC model of academic pathways, which was preferred because of the equity component.

Brooke Anderson: Provide an update on the Systemic Justice Action Committee re: equitable assessment practices. Communication faculty are working on incorporating liberatory writing. Brooke has long been a proponent of contract grading and is working with Frankie Rollins to expand understanding and practice of contract grading at Pima.

Mascot/Nickname

Sage asked for an update on the College mascot.

Lisa Brosky said the marketing office is working with a local agency on this effort. Work will include forming a mascot committee, followed by discussion, development and feedback on a "back story" for a mascot. The backstory can help inform what the mascot will be. This process will work much as the branding process worked with input, surveys and committee participation. The goal is to complete this work by the start of the Fall semester.

An important part of the discussion will be the future of the nickname Aztecs, which will draws strong emotions both for and against retaining the name.

Next meeting

Lisa will forward Doodle poles for the remaining meetings this semester.