

MEMORANDUM



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March 23, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Ray Hall, Chair
Academic Senate

FROM: Nichole Walsh, Vice-Chair
Academic Policy & Planning Committee

RE: APP Memo APM 206 - ONLINE LEARNING COURSES AND
PROGRAMS (Revisions)

This memorandum will serve to inform the Academic Senate that the Academic Policy & Planning Committee moved to approve the following revised policy in consideration of findings from the Post-COVID Taskforce at our 3/23/23 meeting:

MSC To forward the revised 3-23-23 redline copy of APM 206 regarding revisions to policy language related to online learning (previously technology-mediated) to the Executive Committee for the Senate's consideration.

The matter regarding necessary revisions to APM 206 began in the 2021-2022 AY when considerations related to overreach of committee processes on curricular areas of technology-mediated course content and slowing of curriculum approval processes were brought to AP&P. During this preliminary review, AP&P also found outdated language existed related to terminology used to describe distance learning in online formats, particularly as innovation occurred through the pandemic related to the various ways courses are delivered using online formats. The team needed to adjust the policy language to match the current terminology used across the CSU as well as shift policy language to ensure faculty assigned to online instruction above 20% maintain certification with training much like CITI certification for respective research areas. Concurrently, the Post-COVID Taskforce convened and completed an extensive faculty supported review and survey of the current state and perceptions of online learning. AP&P voted to postpone moving APM 206 revisions forward concerned that there may be other implications needing to be addressed which could be done at one time. As such, this AY 2022-2023, and after university deliberations related to the Post COVID Taskforce report, AP&P overlaid report considerations related to APM 206. This lengthy process included months of ongoing revisions and committee deliberations to:

- ensure alignment with WASC, CSU, and university policies as well as the intent of the taskforce findings;
- update language to the most current terminology in online learning;
- recenter quality online learning experiences on instructor training and certification based on shared governance with OBE; and,
- maintain department and program level access to options necessary in supporting students across the variety of undergraduate and graduate contexts the university serves.

It is in the context of collaborative decision-making, critical considerations, and finding collective shared-interests that AP&P brings forth the revised APM 206 to the Executive Committee for the Senate's consideration.

Attachments: Redline copy APM 206 (.docx, PDF)

Academic Policy & Planning Committee

CC: vb, Bernadette Muscat, Jim Mullooly, Aaron Stillmaker

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