Minutes for CofC Faculty Committee on Student Affairs and Athletics (SAAC)  
April 4, 2019  
3rd floor Symposium Room Randolph Hall  
11 a.m.

Present: Allison Sterrett-Krause (Chair, Classics), Bonnie Devet (English), Christy Kollath-Cattano (Health and Human Performance), Henry Xie (Management and Marketing)—committee members  
Present: Jeffrey Butcher—student representative

Update on Honor Code Sanctions/Revision Proposal  
Allison announced that there is no update since the last meeting.

Campus Values Pledge Review and Comment  
Allison passed out a draft of the proposed Values Pledge that all incoming students would be asked to sign. Based on the College’s stated core values, the “Cougar Commitment,” as it will be known, will be part of convocation, orientation, or both. The pledge is designed to “add an extra layer of accountability” (Tripp Keefe) so that students are more aware of the College’s values.  
The SAAC committee liked the pledge, with only a question about what the last “R” meant by “reaffirm the public mission” of the College. Allison said she would convey this question to Tripp Keefe, SGA president, and encourage SGA to reach out to Dr. Rénard Harris (Office of Institutional Diversity) for additional comments.

Alexander Chambliss Connelley Award 2019  
After reviewing the criteria for the award, the committee discussed possible winners, deciding on one, based on her extensive commitment to on-campus work. Her name is not in these minutes, to maintain confidentiality.

Other Business  
Committee Membership for CY 2019-2020  
---Allison stated that she, Henry, Christy, and Bonnie would not be returning to SAAC next year, but Jay Forsythe would be. Jeffrey may be interested in remaining one of the student members pending his other commitments.
--Aside from the ongoing Honor Code Sanctions revision, the committee had no other business to pass on to next year’s committee.

Submitted by Bonnie Devet 4-4-2019
Minutes for CofC Faculty Committee on Student Affairs and Athletics (SAAC)
March 1, 2019
3rd floor Symposium Room Randolph Hall
11 a.m.

Present: Allison Sterrett-Krause (Chair, Classics), Bonnie Devet (English), Jay Forsythe (Chemistry), Christy Kollath-Cattano (Health and Human Performance), Henry Xie (Management and Marketing)—committee members
Present: Jeffrey Butcher—student representative
Present: Jeri Cabot (Dean of Students/Associate Vice President)—ex officio member

Update on Honor Code Sanctions/Revision Proposal
Allison provided a brief update on the revision of Honor Code Sanctions.
---The Faculty Senate (February 2019) did not pass the revised Honor Code Sanctions. She reported there were “relatively positive” reactions, and senators were “generally supportive,” but there were also some concerns.
---Jeri Cabot, Allison, and the Academic Council met in February. In this meeting, the effort to revise Honor Code sanctions led to a larger concern about what a transcript should do; in other words, the “theory of transcripts” arose. The College views transcripts as a way to present grades, not to list honors or awards. The Academic Council also focused on whether xx-f is harsh enough as a grade; whether removing X by petition is too simple; and whether faculty should be consulted in the petition process, letting the faculty member decide if the students have been punished long enough.
---Allison reported that Mary Bergstrom proposed neither an X nor assigning a grade at all; instead, it could be called “M” (moderately problematic) or another letter, with a notation that the student is under suspicion of academic dishonesty. This “M” grade would be like an “I.” The “M” grade replaces all gradations in class 2 while xx-f remains.
---Allison reported the meeting with the Academic Council arrived at no resolution.
---Instead, a “working group” is now proposed, meeting with Jerry Hale, who has an academic interest in transcripts.
---Jay Forsythe said he would serve on this working group.
---Allison stated, “The issue of revising the Honor Code will be carried forward.”

Committee Membership for CY 2019-2020
---Allison stated that she would not be returning to the SAAC next year, but the student representative Jeffrey Butcher and Jay Forsythe both said they would be.

Alexander Chambliss Connelley Award 2019
---The deadline for nominations will be March 25. Jeri Cabot will send out a call for nominations.
---Allison will send committee members the nominations, which members will read and evaluate.
---The award ceremony will be held on April 10.

One last meeting for Spring 2019 Thursday, April 4, 11 a.m., to discuss nominees and vote on the Alexander Chambliss Connelley Award 2019.
Minutes for CofC Faculty Committee on Student Affairs and Athletics (SAAC)
November 7, 2018
Conference Room 307 Randolph Hall
2 p.m.- 3p.m.

Present: Allison Sterrett-Krause (Chair, Classics), Bonnie Devet (English), Jay Forsythe (Chemistry), Christy Kollath-Cattano (Health and Human Performance), Henry Xie (Management and Marketing): committee members
Present: Jeri Cabot (Dean of Students/Associate Vice President)–ex officio member
Present: Olivia Laporte (student representative) and Jeffrey Butcher (student representative)

Welcome and Introductions
Dr. Sterrett-Krause welcomed the committee, asking all, including the two student representatives, to introduce themselves.

Committee Document Sharing
Dr. Sterrett-Krause asked the committee to decide how to share documents. Should we use Google Dropbox or have a non-credit OAKS course? Dr. Forsythe will look into setting up an OAKS non-credit course and will make sure the two student representatives have access to it as well.

Other Projects

A) Update on Student Code of Conduct: Jeri Cabot explained that in 2017 the Code was reviewed by a student/faculty committee. The work was then shared with the Student Government Association, the Graduate Student Association, the Student Affairs and Athletics Committee, the Provost, the Executive Team, the Equal Opportunity Employment Office, and four focus groups of students. Next, the Code was sent back to the Executive Committee, which approved it. Unlike the Honor Code, the Student Code of Conduct has no academic sanctions; the sanctions govern non-academic behavior. Procedures in the Student Code of Conduct also apply to Honor Code violations. The revised code, which tries to use less legal-sounding language, identifies and groups its procedures under the values of the College itself. The campus will be alerted about the new code, with the goal of putting it up on the Web page. It goes into effect in January 2019.

B) Communicating with Faculty about Campus Resources for Students Jeri Cabot and Dr. Sterrett-Krause both asked the committee to “mull over” ways that faculty can learn about all the resources available to assist students. Dr. Cabot reported that Student Affairs has a list of resources, but the office would like to create a tutorial to help faculty. Dr. Sterrett-Krause said SAAC would work on this topic in the spring.

C) Student Grievances Dr. Sterrett-Krause reported that, so far, there are none for SAAC to handle.

D) Alexander Chambliss Connelly Award Dr. Sterrett-Krause said SAAC would solicit nominations in the spring, about midterms.

Honor Code Sanctions Review
Dr. Sterrett-Krause reported meeting with Mary Bergstrom (Registrar) and Julie Dahl (Associate Registrar) on Oct. 29, 2018. Technically, it is feasible to program the XX-grade into Banner.

However, Dr. Sterrett-Krause reported the Registrar’s Office had other concerns:

- the Registrar wondered if institutions would ask a great deal of questions about the xx-A (etc.) grade for transfer students. The Committee felt it was not likely.
- the Registrar worried that transfer students and students applying for graduate work elsewhere might be affected more by the xx-grade.
- the Registrar asked if the xx-grade were removed, could the students retroactively be awarded various distinctions (for example, the President’s List of Honors). Jeri Cabot said according to her understanding, these honors are not awarded retroactively.

Student representative Jeffry Butcher stressed that the student’s intention (when violating the Honor Code) should have more weight than the weight of the assignment; also, he stressed that the Registrar’s concerns about transfer students is legitimate.

The SAAC wondered if the Registrar could place a “blanket statement” on the transcript saying the XX-grade does not count or should it be left up to the Departments? Dr. Forsythe said it should be left at the Department level since each Department does it for their courses.

Student Representative Oliver Laporte suggested that it is the job of the Registrar to argue for students, perhaps even having a pamphlet to answer questions about xx-grades. She saw no problem with the xx-grade.

Dr. Sterrett-Krause circulated to the SAAC a copy of the University of South Carolina’s Guide for Academic Responsibility. While Dr. Sterrett-Krause said this document has “better alternatives,” she will call USC to seek information.

Dr. Sterrett-Krause also asked should CofC cap the sanction at xx-B+, not offering xx-A.

SAAC agreed that xx-A should stand as it is, perhaps with a tutorial/module for students who violate the Honor Code, at the discretion of Honor Board. Dr. Bonnie Devet stressed that the goal is to provide flexibility for both students and faculty.

SAAC agreed that the chart showing the Class-2 Serious Violations should be modified slightly: “XX-grade” should read “calculated with assignment as zero”

Going Forward
Dr. Sterrett-Krause will communicate Registrar’s concerns to Academic Standards Committee (Chair Ricard Vinas de Puig, Hispanic Studies). With continued support from Academic Standards, we will advance this proposal to Faculty Senate.
Dr. Sterrett-Krause stated that SAAC wants to bring the new Honor Code Sanctions before the Faculty Senate in December, so there may be another meeting of SAAC in November.
If Faculty Senate approves proposal, SAAC (or Senate-designated representatives) will communicate with Registrar about language for xx-notation on transcript key and similar logistical matters.
The meeting ended at 2:50 p.m.
Present: Allison Sterrett-Krause (Chair, Classics), Bonnie Devet (English), Jay Forsythe (Chemistry), Christy Kollath-Cattano (Health and Human Performance), Henry Xie (Management and Marketing): committee members
Present: Jeri Cabot (Dean of Students/Associate Vice President)—ex officio member
Present: Vince Benigni (from Athletic Oversight Committee)—ex officio member

Note: Matt Roberts (Director of Athletics) is an ex officio member. Not present but represented by Benigni.
Note: Although students are listed as members according to the FAM (1 female and 1 male resident; 1 non-resident), SGA has not yet appointed students to serve on this committee.

Welcome and Introductions
After all introduced themselves, Bonnie Devet volunteered to be the secretary.

Committee Duties Overview
Dr. Sterrett-Krause listed the duties of the SAAC, based on the Faculty Administrative Manual:
—Who’s Who: Although handled in the past, SAAC will not be doing the Who’s Who list because Who’s Who has suspended its work.
—Alexander Chambliss Connelly Award: SAAC will solicit nominations in March for this award presented to a graduating senior for service to and participation in the student body. In April the award will be presented at the Student Affairs Gala.
—Honor Code: Carried over from last year, the 2018-2019 SAAC is tasked with reviewing the code.

Honor Code Review—History
Dr. Cabot explained the problems for the current code. First, it is too restrictive. It was put in place in 2006, but pedagogy has changed, with on-line teaching and the use of different types of writing (such as low-stakes) now more common. The current code also does not take into account students who admit to honor code violations versus those who contest the charge. In effect, the code needs to be more flexible, especially in the class 2 infractions.

Dr. Sterrett-Krause explained the SAAC has looked at peer institutions for guidance, using the model from the University of South Carolina to revise the current CofC Honor Code.

What are the goals for the revised Honor Code?
A) present the code as less punitive and more instructive.
B) encourage more faculty to report so that the College avoids under-reporting.
C) offer a more readable chart in the Student Handbook.

Discussion of Proposed Changes to the Honor Code
— Dr. Xie wondered how the xx-grade affects a student’s GPA. Dr. Sterrett-Krause said the XX (a “status indicator) does not affect the GPA. The XX stays on the transcript for one year; then, the student must petition to remove it.
— For class 3, Dr. Forsythe suggested replacing the word minor with moderate while Dr. Sterrett-Krause suggested negligence. Dr. Devet suggested the word cautionary. The committee voted unanimously to change minor to cautionary.

—The committee voted unanimously to send the revised Honor Code to the Academic Standards Committee.

**Vince Benigni (member of the Athletics Oversight Committee)**
Dr. Benigni inquired how much SAAC does with issues facing athletes and requested that SAAC and the Athletics Oversight Committee (AOC) keep each other informed, perhaps by sharing minutes and informing the AOC when “athletics” is on the SAAC agenda.

**Next meeting of SAAC** Dr. Sterrett-Krause will send out a doodle poll to determine date and time.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Devet