

Council on Enrollment and Student Progress 2021-2022 Academic Year Report

Reflections of the Chair and Executive Summary

The Conditions Under Which the Council Served

The 2021-2022 academic year found the Council on Enrollment and Student Progress (hereafter CESP) dealing with the continued presence of COVID-19 and the challenges the pandemic presented to the university community. The beginning of the year saw campus life returning to a “new normal” that, while skewing closer to the operation and traditions of past years, nonetheless significantly altered the policies, procedures, and activities of all Buckeyes, from faculty and staff to students of all ranks.

Autumn 2021 ushered in the return of most students to Ohio State campuses, but the realities of the pandemic lingered – and continue to do so. Faculty and staff are now engaging with a student body that is fundamentally different from that that enrolled in Autumn 2019. Returning students have had their collegiate experiences transformed by COVID-19 and its attendant academic and social ripple effects. The incoming freshman class spent its final years of high school preparing for college while adapting to a hybrid or remote learning environment. Faculty and staff have dealt – and continue to deal – with the toll that COVID-19 has taken not only on students but also on themselves, their families, and their colleagues.

The Work of the Council

It is in this environment of change, uncertainty, and retrospection that CESP has operated in 2021-2022. The Council has served as a sounding board for concerns from its student and administrative stakeholders, and it has continued its tradition of prioritizing the wellbeing of the Ohio State student body as it tackles the questions facing the university. CESP has worked with the Office of the Registrar to investigate changes to the academic calendar to improve student outcomes and accommodate religious observances. We met with the university provost to discuss the processes of student enrollment and the procedures of the Community Enrollment question and its impacts. While no actions were taken to the University Senate this year, we were a key contributor to discussions related to the Digital Flagship and equitable technology access, the revised General Education Curriculum, and the outline of future enrollment plans for the university.

We are proud of the work we have done on behalf of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students this year, and we will no doubt continue to strive for the betterment of our community.

Below is a summary of CESP’s activities and progress this academic year:

- **Council Bylaws, Operations and Restructuring**
CESP had formerly operated without official bylaws. This year, the Council adopted bylaws to outline membership, councilmember roles, and voting procedures. The bylaws will be made available on the CESP page of the University Senate website. The Council also adopted, on a trial basis, a subcommittee structure to reduce reliance on ad hoc committees and individual leaders. The subcommittee structure will be reviewed by the Council in 2022.

- **Community Enrollment Question**

CESP has undertaken reviews of the University Community Enrollment Review Committee (UCERC) Members of CESP met with Provost Melissa Gilliam to discuss the future of the Community Enrollment Question, which asks admitted students to disclose any past or pending felony or disciplinary infractions when they enroll at the university. Student representatives on CESP have pushed for increased transparency in the review process and for the removal of the question, and CESP has previously been denied a student representative on UCERC. The Provost offered possible solutions to the issue of the CEQ, and the issue was tabled by CESP.

- **Digital Flagship Initiative**

In collaboration with the Diversity Committee and the Council on Distance Education, Libraries and Technology (DELIT), CESP leaders drafted a letter to the Provost encouraging open dialogue about the fate of the Digital Flagship Initiative. The Digital Flagship has been a pivotal addition to the university community in its efforts to promote equitable access to technology and learning materials. The letter was subsequently followed by an announcement from the Provost's office regarding significant changes to the initiative that university leadership believes will continue to make inroads in the problem of technology gaps among students.

- **Academic Calendar and University-Excused Absence Policies**

CESP approved changes to the 2022-2030 academic calendars, including the addition of a Juneteenth holiday and reading days as needed to accommodate that holiday. CESP, under consultation with USG, also approved an added reading day to the 2030 Autumn Term.

Members of the CESP Student Success subcommittee drafted a letter to the Provost demonstrating support for students facing hardship due to COVID-19 illness and exposure. The letter came in response to a call from student members and outside faculty who noted that instructors at the university were not abiding by the outlined procedures for accommodating students who had been exposed to COVID-19 and were told to quarantine.

A resolution previously supported by CESP to create an excused-absence policy that accommodates absences due to religious holidays was passed by Faculty Council in January 2022.

- **Priority Registration**

CESP voted to extend priority registration status to students serving as University Ambassadors. This change was requested to increase program recruitment and to give ambassadors flexibility in scheduling to accommodate high-demand tour dates that conflict with students' course schedules. CESP also intends to revisit possible changes to priority registration criteria in 2022-2023.

- **PA/NP/PE Follow-Up**

One of the major outcomes of 2020-2021, the Pass/Non-Pass/Emergency Pass (PA/NP/PE) grading system, continued to be a crux of CESP's work in 2021-2022. The Council has received updates on the longer-term outcomes of the grading scheme from Meg Daly, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education, and Amy Treboni, Senior Director of Academic Advising. They were instrumental in CESP's decision to not request reinstatement of the PA/NP/PE grading system beyond the university's state of emergency, which concluded in Summer 2021. CESP will

continue reviewing the grading system and its long-term implications in 2022-2023

- **Enrollment Planning**

On a limited basis, the council engaged in the University’s enrollment planning process. The council chairperson participated in the Enrollment Planning Steering Committee at their SU21 and AU21 meetings. The Student Population Subcommittee has discussed the likelihood of Ohio State moving to test-optional admissions in a post-pandemic environment. Admissions has stated that more information is needed to determine the outcomes of the freshman classes that were admitted on a test-optional basis. Test-optional admissions will continue to be a topic of interest in 2022-2023.

Notable Recognitions

The chair would like to thank the CESP membership for their dedication to the council and its work this year. The topics we address are often challenging, emotionally and logistically, and we have undertaken this work while undergoing university leadership and personnel changes over the course of the year.

- Special recognition must also go to our student representatives from USG, IPC, and CGS. This year has been dedicated to improving the experiences of students of all ranks, and our student members have been a dynamic and integral part of our work in 2022-2023.
- I would also like to formally thank our administrative assistants, Betsy Ludwig and Elaine Pritchard, for their tireless efforts to keep CESP running smoothly. Elaine stepped in mid-year when Betsy was reassigned, and she has been an amazing asset to the CESP leadership team. Interim Vice Provost Damon Jaggars must also be commended for his participation in CESP this year. His service as a conduit to the Provost’s Office was incredibly valuable as we navigated important issues related to community access and equity and student well-being.

The final and complete Master Agenda is appended to this summary.

Committee Structure and Membership

As stipulated in the Committee Bylaws, the committee is composed of members representing various stakeholders. Appointed by the provost, Dr. Damon Jaggars, Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education, is the executive level designee to the committee from OSAS. Consistent with addressing the aspect of its charge regarding graduate students, the second provost’s designee is the Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Alicia Bertone. Below is a complete table of the remaining designees to the committee by source and term limit:

MEMBER	SOURCE	TERM EXPIRES
Goddard, Yvonne	Faculty Council	2024
Kogan, Vladimir	Faculty Council	2022
McCutcheon, Samar	Faculty Council	2023
Ruegsegger, Mark	Faculty Council	2024
Smith, Laureen	Faculty Council	2022
Specht, Annie - Chair	Faculty Council	2022
Stebenne, David	Faculty Council	2023

Kaye, Gail	University President	2022
Marzette, Russell	University President	2023
Thompson, Daniel	University President	2024
Berk, Abigail	USG	2022
Mahaffey, Kyle	USG	2022
Daly, Heather	CGS	2022
Mayle, Sierra	CGS	2022
Daley, Shea	IPC	2022
Kruk, Angela	IPC	2022
Williams, Sarah	USAC	2022
Bertone, Alicia – GS Dean	Provost designee	Ex-officio
Jaggars Damon – UE Dean	Provost designee	Ex-officio

Committee Leadership

Annie Specht, Associate Professor and Undergraduate Program Coordinator in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership was served as Chair. Mark Ruegsegger, Clinical Professor of Biomedical Engineering, was elected as Vice Chair and will serve as Chair for the 2022-2023 academic year.

September 5, 2021 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and committee charge	Annie Specht	Introductions of chair, committee, and guest (administrative support staff for retention and graduation and data in the Office of Student Academic Success (OSAS) and Office of Academic Affairs (OAA)). Overview of committee charge. Five specific duties were outlined in the CESP Committee Charge in detail.	This meeting served as an introduction to the council for new members and gave us an opportunity to discuss possible changes to our council structure and bylaws.
2022-2024 Enrollment Plan	Beth Hume	Review of the latest university enrollment plan.	We reviewed the latest enrollment plan. Guided by that Ohio State has a central role in workforce
Subcommittee Development and Committee Restructuring	Annie Specht	Reviewed proposal to create standing committees on topics of CESP instead or creating ad hoc committees.	preparations, commitment to service to the state of Ohio, and focus on providing an exceptional education. Focus on STEMM degree completions, distance education expansion, and new faculty growth.
2021-22 Master Agenda	Annie Specht	Reviewed the 2021-22 Master Agenda and identified gaps and additional topics of interest.	The council identified areas of interest to include in Master Agenda, including Academic Calendar and Adding Reading Days, University Community Enrollment Review Process (UCERC), PE Grading are on the agenda. Priority Registration and the FYE Checklist. Transfer students, STEP.

October 5, 2021 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome, Approval of Minutes and Nomination of Vice Chair	Annie Specht	To review and approve meeting minutes and to elect a Vice Chair for 2021-22 who will assume Chair duties in 2022-23.	Mark Ruegsegger elected as Vice Chair. The bylaws were approved by 14-0-1 vote. Subcommittees were approved on a trial basis for one year by 14-0-1 vote. A Juneteenth holiday was approved (13-1-0) to begin in SU2022. Updates to the academic calendar to add reading days were approved (13-0-1).
Discussion and vote on CESP structure proposals	Annie Specht	To review and vote upon CESP bylaws and subcommittees.	
Academic Calendar	Andree' Houston and Adrienne Bricker	Review and vote upon a Summer Calendar Proposal for Juneteenth Holiday. Approval of 2030-31 Academic Calendar and update to 10 Year calendar.	We discussed the need to reinstate PE grading and determined that, as the university was not in a state of emergency, that PE grading is not appropriate. Will continue reviewing PE grading via subcommittees.
Emergency Pass Grading	Annie Specht	We received a request from a faculty senator to consider emergency pass for this academic year. The faculty member perceives that students are still in crisis and asked the university to consider reinstating PE grading.	

November 2, 2021 – CESP Subcommittees

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve. Review subcommittee responsibilities and chair appointments.	We participated in our first subcommittee meetings of the academic year.
Student Population Subcommittee	Linda Katunich; Beth Wisser; David Roy, Russell Marzette; Subcommittee Members	Review latest enrollment data; review Community Enrollment Question regarding felonies and disciplinary actions.	The Student Population Subcommittee reviewed the latest enrollment data, which identified dips in retention in first-generation and regional-campus students. They discussed the Community Enrollment Question.
Student Success Subcommittee	Amy Treboni; Meg Daly; Subcommittee Members	PA/PE grading discussion and topic identification.	The Student Success Subcommittee voted to not reinstate PE grading in AY2021-22. They also identified topics of interest for investigation.
Student Progress Subcommittee	Subcommittee Members; Jacob Chang; TJ Logan; Ebony Smith	Discuss academic calendar changes and addition of reading days. Review proposal for priority registration for university ambassadors.	The Student Success Subcommittee voted to not reinstate PE grading in AY2021-22. They also identified topics of interest for investigation. The Student Progress Subcommittee reviewed two proposals: one to add reading days before AU2030 and one to add university ambassadors to priority registration list. The first will be considered by Office of Student Life; the second was approved by 10-0-1 vote.

December 7, 2021 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht; Damon Jaggars	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve. Introduction of Damon Jaggars, interim Vice Provost for Academic Success.	Damon Jaggars was introduced to CESP as the Interim Vice Provost and looks forward to working with the council. Micky Sharma provided an update on CCS and an overview of its services. He noted that OSU is increasingly providing resources to students and shifting conversations to address mental health. He noted the need for increased flexibility from instructors to help student anxiety and awaits the university's mental health report. The full CESP body voted to grant university ambassadors priority registration by a vote of 10-0-1.
Student Mental Health Update	Micky Sharma	Learn about Counseling and Consultation Services at Ohio State, review trends in CCS service requests, and identify areas of improvement that CESP can work on.	
Subcommittee Reports	Gail Kaye; Dan Thompson; Yvonne Goddard	Subcommittee chairs report on activities and outcomes of the October subcommittee meetings. CESP votes on any action items.	

January 4, 2022 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve.	After approval of meeting minutes, the subcommittees met to identify topics and speakers for upcoming meetings.
Subcommittee Discussion Time	Subcommittee Chairs	Subcommittees break out to discuss topics for upcoming meetings and identify speakers for those meetings.	Caitlyn Cunningham reported on key
USG Update	Caitlyn Cunningham	A representative from Undergraduate Student Government reports of activities of USG and key initiatives impacting CESP.	USG initiatives including recruitment and retention regarding COVID-19, which will involve partnering with CESP and OSAS. USG seeks academic support for streamlining practices such as leave of absence, quarantine, etc., and are investigating better religious accommodations and additional reading days.
Open Forum	CESP Members and Guests	CESP members and guests discuss emerging issues.	An informal discussion with Beth Wisner around test-optional admissions was held. Beth advised CESP will be involved in discussions moving forward when more data is available.

February 1, 2022 – CESP Subcommittees

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve.	Following the approval of the previous meeting’s minutes, the subcommittees broke out into rooms for discussion.
Student Population Subcommittee	Beth Wiser; Alicia Bertone; Annie Specht; Subcommittee Members	Discuss standardized testing for admissions. Receive graduate/professional enrollment update from Dean Bertone.	Student Population received a report from the Graduate School on its tools to improve reporting and data visualization of graduate enrollment and degree completion. Dean Bertone reporting that declining and number of admitted is up; enrollment is staying steady, indicating selectivity has decreased. They received an update from Beth Wiser on test-optional admissions. Student mix by ratio has not changed. Student’s biggest factor in choosing to disclose or withhold is score, and likelihood of disclosure is tied to relative performance. Many Big Ten schools have committed to test optional through Autumn 2023. Annie Specht also reported on the ad hoc meeting with Provost Gilliam regarding CEQ and UCERC. The provost is open to changes to CEQ but would like to research the issue further.
Student Success Subcommittee	James Moore and Gabe Myers; Subcommittee Members	Receive update from Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the USG Justice and Equity Committee.	
Student Progress Subcommittee	Subcommittee Members; Jenny Osborn	Receive information about the First Year Experience (FYE) Checklist.	Student Success received an update from James Moore regarding a survey of Morrill and Young Scholars re: COVID-19 impacts. He discussed the challenges of changes to the Digital Flagship and equitable access to

			<p>technology. Gabe Myers added USG reports on lack of affordable health insurance, LGBTQ+ resources, and religious accommodations. COVID accommodations were also discussed, with OSAS leading initiatives to improve accommodations for sick and quarantining students.</p> <p>Student Progress deferred the item on reading days and reviewed the FYE checklist, including the recent addition of COVID vaccination status. They questioned if the committee the appropriate forum to review this checklist, noting that some of the checklist items prompt enrollment actions. They discussed if the Stay Safe video should be added to the checklist.</p>
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March 1, 2022 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve.	After the approval of minutes, the subcommittee chairs reported on their February meeting outcomes. Student
Subcommittee Reports and Action Items	Russell Marzette; Dan Thompson; Yvonne Goddard	Subcommittee chairs report on activities and outcomes of the February subcommittee meetings. CESP votes on any action items.	Progress suggested that someone from FYE who has knowledge of the FYE checklist present to the committee at next month's meeting. Concerns were raised about the Digital Flagship, and a
GE Updates	Meg Daly; Randy Smith	CESP receives an update on the status of and progress toward implementation of the new GE in AU22.	<p>conversation with Sharon Schweikhart, DELIT Chair, is needed prior to next month's meeting. Logical next step to see if CESP can offer additional support. Student Success noted that getting messages out to instructors to support students who need accommodations is an issue. Further conversation is needed around tools for students and instructors alike.</p> <p>Meg Daly and Randy Smith provided an update on the new GE a few months prior to implementation. They indicated that curricula and enrollment issues have been resolved. 35 courses have been approved, and another 35 courses approved with contingencies. They anticipate some limited offerings in AU22 but are confident there will be enough. OSU is working with partner institutions on articulating transfer pathways, and there are plans to increase advising resources, especially at regional campuses.</p>

April 5, 2022 – CESP Subcommittees

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome, Updates and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve.	Dan Thompson and Annie Specht met with chairs from the Senate’s Diversity and DELIT Committees. The chairs sent a joint letter to the Provost regarding concerns about the ending of the Digital Flagship program and a lack of communication about the status of the program.
Student Population Subcommittee	Rob Griffiths; David Graham; Russell Marzette; Subcommittee Members	Receive a report on online programs from Rob Griffiths and a report on student retention and graduation programs from David Graham.	Student Population met and discussed UCERC.
Student Success Subcommittee	Subcommittee Members	Update from the subcommittee chair on action items from previous meeting.	Student Success discussed the letter sent to the Provost from Diversity and DELIT as well as the Digital Flagship. Their discussion of the GE rollout was delayed until future meetings.
Student Progress Subcommittee	Subcommittee Members; Jenny Osborn; Danny Glassman	Discussion of added reading days and the FYE Checklist.	Student Progress discussed the FYE Checklist and reading days. Danny Glassman provided an update on the impact of additional reading days on student activities. The subcommittee determined that an updated survey of UG student body asking for detail on impact would be beneficial. They also revisited priority registration.
University Registrar Planning Exercise	Andree’ Houston	The Registrar’s Office is preparing to move its website to a new platform. They are seeking input on architecture needed.	CESP reconvened for a planning exercise to aid the Registrar’s Office in its website updates.

May 3, 2022 – Full CESP Meeting

Agenda Item	Guest/Presenter	Description/Desired Outcome	Summary
Welcome, Updates and Approval of Minutes	Annie Specht; Damon Jaggars; Charlene Gilbert	Review minutes from previous meeting and vote to approve. Introduction of Senior Vice Provost for Student Academic Excellence Charlene Gilbert. Chair will provide the annual report for CESP.	Damon Jaggars introduced Dr Charlene Gilbert to CESP.
Subcommittee Reports and Action Items	Russell Marzette; Dan Thompson; Yvonne Goddard	Subcommittee chairs report on activities and outcomes of the April subcommittee meetings. CESP votes on any action items.	Subcommittee chairs reported on the activities of the previous month's subcommittee meetings (summaries available in the April 5 meeting notes).
CEQ Review: Motion to Extend Period of Study and Postponement of Consideration for 1 Additional Year	Russell Marzette	CESP to vote to extend inquiry into CEQ until April 2023.	The motion to extend the period of inquiry into the Community Enrollment Question passed unanimously.
Diversity in STEMM	Susan Olesik	Update on DEI programs to in STEMM fields at Ohio State.	Meg Daly provided an update on the adjusted grading system in AY20 and AY21. She identified groups of students who utilized PA/NP grading (largely underclassmen with GPAs between 2.0-2.9). PA/NP did not significantly inflate GPAs though GPAs broadly increased slightly in SP20. She identified some questions of interest for further study in AY22.
PA/PE Update	Meg Daly	Review data on impacts of PA/NP/PE grading on student performance and academic success.	
Voting Item: FYE Checklist	Yvonne Goddard	Vote on CESP's formal role in approving items for the FYE Checklist.	
2022-23 Planning	Mark Ruegsegger	Planning for AY 2022-23.	Susan Olesik presented updates on STEMM initiatives for increasing the proportion of underrepresented group in related fields. She commented on new and continuing programs, including the OSU STEM Emerging Leaders Scholars Program and instructor communities of practices, as well as professional-

			<p>development opportunities for current instructors with Teaching to increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES) program. She also described an external advisory committee and plans for a new STEM learning center.</p> <p>A motion was moved and seconded that CESP be the university body to determine whether or not items be included in FYE checklist. The motion passed.</p> <p>Mark Ruegsegger led a planning discussion for next academic year. University Ambassador priority scheduling needs to be addressed in upcoming year. Ruegsegger will be the chair of CESP next academic year, and he would like to keep subcommittee structure next year. CESP will need leaders for the subcommittees.</p>
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