

**Indiana University
Bloomington Faculty Council
Summary of Actions Taken 2019-2020**

Resolution regarding a test optional approach to undergraduate admissions

The Bloomington Faculty Council passed a resolution encouraging the University Faculty Council to amend policy ACA-54 Establishing Campus Undergraduate Admissions Policies in order to allow campuses the flexibility to amend their admissions criteria to make standardized test scores optional for admission.

-Adopted October 1, 2019

Amendments to the electoral sub-units in the College of Arts and Sciences

In consultation with the College Policy Committee, the Bloomington Faculty Council amended the sub-elections units in the College of Arts and Sciences to reflect the core divisions in the College. The Council approved the following electoral sub-units within the College of Arts and Sciences

- Core divisions:
 - arts and humanities
 - natural and mathematical sciences
 - social and historical
- Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies
- Eskenazi School of Art, Architecture + Design
- Media School

The number of representatives in the core divisions will be determined by the Nomination Committee each year and according to the proportionality guidelines in the bylaws. The schools within the College are allotted one representative each.

-Adopted October 15, 2019

[View the updated sub-units in the College](#)

Creation of policy BL-ACA-H42

Credit for Prior Learning

The Bloomington Faculty Council adopted a new policy to require units and departments to adopt policies that clearly define the criteria, procedures, and maximum credit awarded for prior learning experience. The policy was adopted to be compliant with Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Assumed Practices.

- Adopted November 5, 2019

[Read the policy](#)

Revisions to evaluative criteria for promotion and tenure

The Bloomington Faculty Council approved changes to “Indiana University Bloomington Principles and Policies on Promotion and Tenure,” and in particular providing clear campus criteria for the evaluative categories of “very good” “effective/satisfactory” and “ineffective/unsatisfactory” for research, teaching, and service. The previous version of this document only defined excellence in each of these areas.

- Adopted November 19, 2019

[Read the updated criteria](#)

**Amendments to BL-ACA-H11
Undergraduate Admissions**

The Bloomington Faculty Council adopted amendments to the Undergraduate Admissions policy to make standardized test scores option for undergraduate students apply for admission beginning in fall of 2021. Several categories of applicants, however, will still be required to submit a test score. Those categories include applicants who were home-schooled, who attended a school where traditional alpha or numerical grades were not assigned, and those who need to include test scores to be compliant with NCAA eligibility requirements.

-Adopted January 21, 2020

[Read the updated policy](#)

**Recommendation to the University Faculty Council
regarding procedures in the event of financial exigency**

The Bloomington Faculty Council recommended to the University Faculty Council a set of procedures for faculty involvement in the event of financial exigency. The ultimate decision to declare a condition of financial exigency at Indiana University lies with the Board of Trustees, meaning that the protocols must be adopted at the University, rather than campus, level. The recommendation was put before the University Faculty Council and was adopted.

-Adopted February 4, 2020

[Read ACA-41 Faculty Role Regarding University Financial Exigency](#)

**Amendment to the Bylaws of the Bloomington Faculty Council
to change the name of the Diversity and Affirmative Action Committee**

The Bloomington Faculty Council approved a change to the bylaws to rename the Diversity and Affirmative Action Committee, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

-Adopted March 3, 2020

[Read the bylaws](#)

**Temporary amendments to BL-ACA-H30
Grades and Grading**

The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Bloomington Faculty Council, approved temporary amendments to the "S" grade section of the Grades and Grading policy. The amendments were intended to provide grading flexibility so faculty could choose to use a S/F grading system in place of a letter grade for students on an individual basis. These provisions of the policy were in effect through August 15, 2020.

-Adopted March 31, 2020

[Read the policy](#)

**Recommendation regarding the campus-level
requirement for external letters for teaching professor promotions**

The Bloomington Faculty Council made a recommendation to the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs, regarding the campus-level requirement for external letters for teaching professor promotions. The Council decided that the total number of letters should be 6 and 4 of those letters that should be external to the university.

-Adopted March 31, 2020

Delay of implementation of campus-level review of promotions to senior lecturers

The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Bloomington Faculty Council, approved a one-year delay of campus level committee review of Senior Lecturers. This delay meant that the campus would continue the existing system for another year, before implementing the campus-level review of promotion to Senior Lecturer which was previously approved by the Council.

-Adopted April 3, 2020

Resolution for Enhancing Sustainability at IU Bloomington

The Bloomington Faculty Council adopted a resolution committing the Council to several sustainability-related initiatives including, but not limited to, the development of a campus-specific action plan by 2023 and collaborating with groups across campus to achieve the goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030.

-Adopted April 7, 2020

[Read the resolution](#)

Family friendly suggestions

The Executive Committee collaborated with the Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs on a communication to the deans and department chairs encouraging them to be mindful of the variety of challenges facing faculty in the midst of the pandemic. Deans and department chairs were encouraged to offer their faculty flexibility as we navigate these unprecedented times.

-May 20, 2020

[Read the suggestions](#)

Resolution Reaffirming Shared Governance Principles and Expectations in the Campus Pandemic Response

The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Bloomington Faculty Council, approved a resolution outlining the faculty's expectations for reopening the campus, including the criteria that will be used to determine the need for an emergency shut down of face-to-face teaching and on-campus activities. The resolution affirms that faculty rededicate themselves to active participation in shared governance and that they ask the same of the administration.

-Adopted June 19, 2020

[Read the resolution](#)

Additional Executive Committee actions taken during the summer

The Executive Committee acting on behalf of the Bloomington Faculty Council played an active consultative role to the Provost to provide the most useful and relevant information for faculty as quickly as possible.

Throughout the escalating pandemic crisis the Executive Committee:

- Organized the BFC Q&A session (June 17, 2020)
- Served as consultants for the Campus information sessions
- Provided recommendations of faculty to serve on the Campus restart committees

Amendments to BL-ACA-H11

Undergraduate Admissions

The Executive Committee, acting on behalf of the Bloomington Faculty Council, approved amendments to the Undergraduate Admissions policy to grant a special exception for the fall 2021 and spring 2022 admissions cycles that allows homeschool students, students attending high schools who do not assign traditional alpha or numerical grades, and recruited athletes applicants to apply to IU Bloomington test-optional.

-August 11, 2020