Committee description:
To be concerned with new schools, new programs and new degrees. To consider policies regarding academic honors, leaves, grants, promotions, departmental and divisional chairmanships, programs abroad, the academic calendar, career planning and placement, Vanderbilt University Library, Information Services, the bookstore, and the University Press.

Committee members:
Katherine Friedman, A&S (2020)
Holly Algood, Medicine (2020) [Executive Committee Liaison]
Haoxiang Luo, Chair, Engineering (2019)
Jennifer Kim, Nursing (2019)
Derek Griffith, A&S ( )
Mark deCaestecker, Medicine (2019)
Peter Martin, Medicine (2020)
Leena Choi, Medicine (2021)

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>1.</td>
<td><strong>Review of academic programs</strong>&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Background:</strong> Reviewing new academic programs and degrees is a routine task for the APS committee.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Goals:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• Review new academic degree programs submitted to the faculty senate&lt;br&gt;• Provide consultative input for the individuals who submitted the proposal&lt;br&gt;• Make recommendation to the full senate&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Actions:</strong>&lt;br&gt;• The APS Committee has reviewed 2 new degree proposals: 1) Health Science Policy PhD program and the 2) Data Science Masters program. In each case, the Committee provided feedback comments to the authors to clarify and/or improve the proposal.&lt;br&gt;• Recommendations were presented to the Senate at a</td>
<td>N/A (task is performed as a proposal is submitted to the Senate)</td>
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<td>Special Meeting (Oct 25th)</td>
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<td>- A request was sent to Associate-Provost Dawn Turton to make the Process for the Approval of New Academic and Professional Degree Programs available when a PNOI is first submitted. She has responded to that request and will take appropriate steps.</td>
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<td>- The committee will discuss the process, particularly the option for the committee to make a motion to endorse a degree program</td>
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2. **Export Compliance (EC)**

**Background:** The Office of EC could require faculty traveling internationally or international students/scholars working at VU/VUMC to go through EC procedures, which could be lengthy in certain cases, e.g., when VU graduate students need to do rotations in VUMC labs and each lab needs to follow the EC process and when both VU and VUMC ECs are involved after VU-VUMC split.

**Goals:**
- Understand policy and practice of EC on both VU and VUMC sides (2017-18)
- Recommend mechanisms to increase faculty awareness
- (2018-19) Help disseminate the information through the Faculty Senate Blog.

**Actions:**
- The 2017-18 Committee had meetings with both the VU EC and VUMC EC to understand their policies and practice.

**Outcome (as of 5/2018):**
- The VU EC incorporated our suggestion and published an article on MyVU to promote faculty awareness of export compliance. The VUMC EC also promises to work on their side to best inform faculty of the policies so that actions could be taken promptly to avoid delay.

3. **Budget policy for internal grants**

**Background:** The Provost Office recently imposed strict budget policy on internal grants, e.g., Discovery grant and TIPs. For example, 50-50 splitting between two years, no carry-over, no extension, and no graduate tuition support are required. Many awardees are concerned with and frustrated by the inflexibility in
using the funds in order to maximize their research productivity.

Goals:
- Understand the Provost Office’s perspective on the budget policy
- Communicate the faculty concerns to the Provost Office
- Suggest for change, if possible.
- 2018-19 Follow up on this issue to make sure that awardees are properly notified about the budget split option. (consider blog to disseminate information)

Actions:
- The 2017-18 APS committee had a meeting with Vice Provosts John Geer and Padma Raghaven to discuss the issue and convey the faculty opinions. They explained the budgetary constraints on their side. For example, tuition support should be provided by individual schools under the current ETOB model.

Outcomes (as of 5/2018):
- The Provost Office agreed that some flexibility should be offered.
- As far as we understand, awardees now are allowed to redo the two-year budget (instead of a fixed 50-50 split) when the awards are made so that they can handle certain spending situations.

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<th><strong>Off-campus access to library resources</strong></th>
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<td><strong>Background:</strong> Off-campus access of library resources (e.g., electronic subscriptions of journal articles) is not always convenient, as each access may require an authentication step during which the VU credentials are needed. There are simpler approaches available, but a lot of faculty are apparently not aware of them.</td>
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<td><strong>Goals:</strong></td>
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<td>- Understand what approaches are available for off-campus access.</td>
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<td>- Facilitate proper dissemination of the information to the faculty to take advantage of the available approaches.</td>
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<td>- 2018-19 Follow up on the new library webpage and possibly assess its function more broadly.</td>
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<td>- The Committee may learn more about this approach from the IT and consider working with the Library to disseminate the finding- including through a Faculty</td>
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| December 2018 | April 2019 |
Senate newsletter or blog post.

Actions:
- The APS Committee had a meeting with VU library office to discuss the issue and learned the available access approaches.
- The Committee suggested that the Library make the information available through the library webpage.
- From a later communication with the VU IT office, we learned that it is also possible to set users’ VPN to allow easy access of library resources.

Outcome:
- (2017-18) The library office took our comments very well. They are in the process of redesigning the library website and promised to incorporate this issue in the new design.