AY21-9-B and C

Faculty Senate Issue Log Form
Date-Submitted: October 6 2021
Title-of-Issue: Disbanding of the Course Cancellation Committee
Description: In the last few semesters a process has been put into place and used where departments must submit requests to have a class cancelled.  In my department, the Associate Chair who has oversight of the schedule, fills out a request form.  She sends it to the Chair who then reviews it and sends it to the Associate Dean.  Then it goes to the Course Cancellation Committee for approval. Thus at least three people in the College, two of whom are deeply knowledgeable and involved in the department's schedule, think about the need for a class cancellation which is then review by another individual who has insight into scheduling for the College well before it goes to a committee (I dont know the make up of the committee)

This is a fairly recent process.  I understand that it may have developed out of problems in some academic units.

The questions are

What do the data on the process indicate?  Anecdotally (based on a conversation with the Associate Dean for Arts and Letters and her memory) the Course Cancellation Committee has not turned down any requests for the College of Arts and Letters, nor has the Associate Dean turned down a department request.

If the data indicate there is a problem can the data be used to turn attention to the units with the problem and leave the rest of the units alone?

If the data indicate that there is not a problem might we  disband the Course Cancellation Committee and thank the members for solving the problem that prompted the committee?

Rationale: It is extremely important the departments offer the classes need as students progress towards the completion of their degrees.  Oversight to ensure that this is happening is important.  Oversight  as it is embodied in the requirement for approval of cancelling each and every class may well be beyond necessity and is frankly insulting.  If it is not necessary, please stop it.

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