

**EPC Minutes  
March 25, 2021**

*In attendance:* Jim Barber, Magali Compan, John Donahue, Joshua Erlich, Larry Evans, Jonathan Glasser, James Glosson, Matt Haug, Alex Johnson, Rachel Li, Tom Linneman, Sallie Marchello, Elizabeth Mead, Christy Porter, Nori Thurman, Kristin Wustholz

**Minutes from March 19, 2021 were approved.**

**Proposals**

**EDUC - 200 - Orientation to Teaching as a Profession**

**COLL 200**

Approved.

**Creation of Data Science department**

The Faculty Affairs Committee has concluded that creation of the Data Science department is not in EPC's purview, and has instructed EPC not to deliberate on whether to endorse the creation of the department.

**Pandemic Pass/Fail Policy for Spring 2021**

The pass/fail policy for Spring 2021 was determined by the administration, and EPC has been told that a modified pass/fail policy is off the table. Nonetheless, the committee had a lengthy discussion following a petition signed by over 2,000 students and alumni pleading for a relaxed pass/fail policy for this semester, in addition to a barrage of nearly identical form messages that has been sent from students, alumni and parents to a mailing list of two dozen administrators and committee members, including the faculty members of EPC.

The student members of the committee confirmed that students remain overburdened and overstressed due to the pandemic educational environment. Some faculty expressed concern with the tactic of spam email by students in an apparent pressure campaign to force a change in educational policy. No action was recommended.