

**Committee on Educational Policy**  
**September 11, 2019**

**In attendance: Faculty: Tekla Harms, acting chair; Krupa Shandilya; Christian Rogowski; Adam Sitze. Students: Gabriel Echarte '22. Recorder: Nancy Ratner, Director of Academic Projects.**

Tekla Harms, acting chair of the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP), called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. in the Terrace Room and welcomed Adam Sitze, as the committee's newest member.

**Travel Policy**

Tekla asked the committee to begin with a travel policy that Janna Behrens, Director of Global Education, had shared with the committee. The policy requires a petition for studying abroad and specifies steps students must take if they wish to study in countries that have been deemed risky. Adam was curious about students who might choose to study abroad in countries specified as dangerous, despite being advised about the risks of doing so. He had particular concerns about the punitive nature of the policy. Requiring students to take a personal leave in order to study in possibly dangerous countries struck him as an issue limiting academic freedom and possibly a step too far.

Tekla added that this policy might also need to clarify what a sponsored international trip would be. The policy appears to be structured primarily for students studying away but may need to be restructured to include other types of travel if it is meant to apply also to faculty members organizing overseas trips with students. She wondered whether the policy had been reviewed by the college legal team. Several committee members thought first-year students might not understand some of this language. Tekla suggested the committee return to this policy at the next meeting and then send the committee's concerns to Janna.

**Curricular Practical Training (CPT)**

Tekla then welcomed Hanna Bliss, Director of International Student Engagement, to the meeting to discuss Curricular Practical Training (CPT).

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.