Meeting called to order: 2:37

Members Present:

M. Warshauer, Chair, (History), S. Tomczyk (Accounting) R. Roth (A&S Dean), J. Mulrooney (Biomolecular Science), S. Braverman (Business), M. Hager (Education), C. Doyle (English), M. Mahony (History), C. Waveris (Math), S. Petrosino (Registrar), A. Pautz (SEPS Dean), P. Osei (Biology), B. Westcott (Chemistry)

Guests: Patricia Gardner (Admissions)

1. Minutes of the last meeting, February 28, 2006 (Mahony/Braverman) (approved)

2. Announcements: The GPA requirement for the School of Business was debated at Faculty Senate, but ultimately approved.

3. Announcements: The proposal regarding the residency requirement (15 credits in the major 9 credits in the minor) was returned from Faculty Senate to the Academic Standards Committee for further discussion. Discussion highlighted several of the concerns of changing this requirement. Up for discussion is whether to adopt the current practice of requiring 24 credits in the major for those majors that do not require a minor. Discussion included whether it should be based on the size of the major, or should it be left at the discretion of the
program/department. Discussion also included how this might affect the student, and if there were students who transferred here who were able to complete the major (large majors with no minor) with only 15 credits. It was decided that the chair of the academic standards committee would draft a letter to department chairs seeking their feedback on this issue (see attached).

Motion for adjournment (Mulrooney)

Meeting Adjourned 3:44

Respectfully Submitted

James Mulrooney

Secretary, Academic Standards Committee.

NEXT MEETING: April 25th 2:30 in the Blue and White Room, Student Center

ATTACHMENTS

Letter from M. Warshauer (Chair, Academic Standards) to Department Chairpersons:

Dear Department Chairs,

The Academic Standards Committee has recently been wrestling with the subject of residency requirements within majors and minors. As it stands now, the University catalogue states that all students must complete 45 overall credits at CCSU. Within majors and minors, students must complete 15 credits in the major and 9 credits within the minor. There are, however, a number of majors that are large enough that they do not
require minors. In such instances, the Registrar has followed what has become a tradition of rolling the 9 credits for the minor into the major and thus requiring 24 credits of residency within large majors that do not have minors.

The Academic Standards Committee determined that this practice did not hold true to the meaning of the residency requirement as stated in the University catalogue and therefore passed a resolution that the Registrar follow the catalogue language and require only 15 credits within the major, whether there is a minor or not. All students are still required to meet the overall 45 credit residency requirement. This resolution was discussed at length in the Faculty Senate and ultimately tabled pending further investigation by Academic Standards.

This is the reason that I am writing to all of you. The Academic Standards Committee and Faculty Senate want to know how departments with what has been called “super majors,” those with 45 credits or more, feel about the number of credits for residency within the major. There are a number of factors to consider when discussing this with your departments:

1) Even if the residency requirement is 15 credits in the major, is it likely that a transferring student could complete your major with only 15 credits at CCSU? In other words, how often have you been faced with transfer students who have the majority of their major completed? The Committee’s assumption was that this was highly unlikely.

2) The School of Business currently requires its students to complete 50% of their courses at CCSU.

3) Please keep in mind that transfer students make up a significant portion of the students at CCSU and that trend will increase in future years. While acknowledging that standards are important, we must also craft a policy that will not deter students from enrolling at CCSU and in your majors.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I would very much appreciate you discussing this with your department and forwarding me an email or call me with your ideas.

Matt Warshauer