Academic Standards Committee

Minutes of 24 November 2009 Meeting

Bellin Gallery – Student Center

The Chair called the meeting to order at 2:38 pm.

Present:
University Deans – M. Horan (A & S), S. Braverman (Business), M. P. Bigley (SEPS)
Student Affairs – R. Hernandez
Recruitment and Admissions – L. Hall
A & S Faculty – J. Gellar (English), S. Gilmore (English), K. McGrath (History), R. Schwell (Math), M. Wizevich (Physics/Earth Sci)
Business Faculty – C. Crespi (Accounting), J. Synder (MIS)
SEPS Faculty – C. Mulcahy (Reading and Lang. Arts)
E & T Faculty – J. Mulrooney (Chair) (Biomolecular Science)

1. J. Mulrooney announced that Academic Standards will be asked in the next Senate meeting to review the new time block scheduling for courses. There was discussion about the appropriateness of the schedules being reviewed by this committee given our current mandate.

2. Proposed Changes to Graduation Standards
   a. The changes that would have allowed 9 credits to be transferred from other CSU schools was tabled, as Provost Lovitt informed the committee that the other schools have not moved forward on it to date.

   b. Discussion of change of residency requirement to 30 credit hours
      i. M.P. Bigley discussed her research into a variety of different universities across the country. Of those she surveyed, only Umass has 45 credit hours required for residency. All of the other schools require 30 credit hours. This was later confirmed by L. Hall who in the past had done a similar review of CCSU’s ten affinity schools.
      ii. There was a discussion of CCSU’s ability to compete with other schools for transfer students given the higher residency requirement. The RN/BSN program was mentioned as a good example of this problem.
      iii. There was a discussion of requiring the last semester or the last year of credits to be taken at CCSU. It was mentioned that this might create an undue burden on students who only needed one or two courses further or might need to take a class elsewhere because of limited offerings at CCSU. It was also mentioned that students would still have to meet the residency requirements for their major and minor.
      iv. There was a discussion of how this would impact financial aid, as students are only eligible for 10 semesters of financial aid.
      v. There was a discussion of whether or not it should be stated in official policy that one could transfer in and graduate after 30 credit hours in residency when the
majority of major requirements would require such a student to take more than 30 credit hours of courses.

vi. There was a discussion of how this would impact graduation with honors, which requires 62 credit hours in residency. It was determined that this would need to be dealt with as a separate issue at a later date.

c. Motion (S. Gilmore, Second: C. Mulcahy): Approve Changes to Graduation Standards as noted below:

Residence Requirement for Degree – A minimum of 30 credits “in residence” is required for a bachelor’s degree. Students transferring from any college are required to take at least 15 credits in their major field and if applicable 9 credits in their minor field at Central Connecticut State University. Major and minor credit minimums are included in the 30-credit residence requirement. “In residence” means attending classes offered by or under supervision of Central Connecticut State University.

Vote: 11 yes; 1 abstention

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

K. McGrath
Secretary