Academic Standards Committee

Minutes of 29 March 2011 Meeting

Bellin Gallery – Student Center

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.

Present:
University Deans – M. Horan (A & S); S. Braverman (Business), M.P. Bigley (SEPS)
Arts and Sciences – J. Geller (English)(Chair), F. Latour (Math); I. Pevac (Computer Science), R. Schwell (Math), M. Wizevich (Physics & Earth Sciences), J. Mulrooney (BMS)
Business – M. McCarthy (Accounting); C. Crespi (Accounting)
Education and Professional Studies – C. Tripodina (Nursing), J. Melnyk (P.E. & Human Performance)
Admissions – L. Hall

I. Motion: Approval of February minutes

J. Mulrooney

Second: L. Hall

Vote: passed unanimously

II. Grade Change Appeal Policy

1. F. Latour stated that he had spoken with the grade appeals committee in relation to the following points:
   a. 8g (was 9g): This policy was added in 2007 to be formal
   b. 5c: describes the role of the Provost in the policy. The provost can either change the grade according to the recommendations of the committee or enter a W for the course.
   c. 5b: States if an appeal is denied, the matter is closed and that is it.
   d. 2b: Inclusion of documents necessary for a students appeal included the addition of two items, 1) a copy of the form from Student Disability Services and 2) a copy of the academic misconduct report. These two documents cannot be shared as per FERPA regulations however the student may include these documents if they wish but they are not required to do so.

2. There was discussion related to students using the grade appeal process to receive a “W” for a course. Students cannot appeal to ask for a “W”, they must submit a withdrawal form.

3. There was discussion related to students appealing a grade of “Incomplete”. It was discussed that a grade of incomplete is not a grade it is a grade pending and it will revert to an “F” if the work is not completed. Therefore there is no reason a student with an incomplete should file for a grade appeal.

4. J. Mulrooney stated that the grade appeals document “smelled done” and thanked F. Latour for his hard work on synthesizing the document. All
committee members unanimously agreed and thanked F. Latour for his work on this document.

Motion: Approval of grade appeal policy with the removal of the student disability form and academic misconduct report as well as changing the ; to a . after him/her; F. Latour / A very nice woman (second) 
Vote: Passed unanimously

5. Discussion took place over the revised grade appeals form. Wording was changed to make the form easier to understand. There was an issue brought up regarding making a fourth signature space for the course instructor to sign. Committee members suggested that adding this signature may cause a student to feel intimidated by having them acquire the instructors signature. A second point was raised to include the website of the Registrar’s Office so that students know where to access the current Appeals for Grade Changes Policy. Due to the URL of the website being confusing this idea was scrapped.

Motion: Approval of grade appeal form. A. Nonymous / U. Known (second)
Vote: Passed unanimously

III. Proposal for Academic Residency
6. J. Mulrooney brought up a concern from Susan that the way the policy is worded states that students are evaluated for residency based on 30 credits however, her concern is that the student uses another catalogue (e.g. requirements upon enrollment to the University, or upon entry into a major, or requirements upon graduation) to determine other requirements for their major.

7. C. Tripodina brought up the fact that one issue with this proposal is that RNs with associate degrees cannot get jobs because hospitals are only hiring nurses with Bachelor degrees.

8. It was mentioned that there are approximately 6 nurses that would be affected by the residency proposal.

9. There was discussion and concern that if this proposal is enacted that this should affect the entire University and not be restricted knowledge to the Nursing department.

Motion: J. Mulrooney will report to the Provost that the committee will continue to work on the proposal but the current recommendation is that the committee approves/recommends to help the students graduate and also to send this proposal message to all department Chairs. J. Mulrooney / N. Person (second)
Vote: Passed unanimously (L. Hall abstained)

IV. Agenda for next meeting: Discussion of proposal for academic residency.
The meeting adjourned at 1:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Melnyk