Academic Standards Committee

Minutes of March 31, 2011 meeting

Members present: Chatterjee, Dees, Ferriss, Schultz (for Potts), Darryl Miller, Mike Martin (for Perkins) Schraufnagel, Ross Jill (for Stoffregen), Vande Yacht

- Meeting called to order at 3:30pm

1. Motion to approve minutes of March 1 meeting(Vande Yacht, Schultz) passes;

2. Update regarding Policy 8.2.11 University Sponsored Off-Campus Activities and Field Trips.

   This motion was not sent to Faculty Senate yet. The Provost suggested the committee talk through the implementation process. There was discussion regarding whether this committee needs to bring forth further steps regarding the implementation process of this policy. The committee saw implementation as a separate question from changing the wording of the policy. For faculty that have concerns with the implementation of the policy, they should work with their Dean’s offices as they were represented in the review and revision of the policy. Terry will send the policy revisions forward to Faculty Senate as previously approved in committee on March 1.

3. Review the current Academic Suspension and Probation Policy (Motion 2007-08-21) to ensure it is working for everyone and make recommendations for changes if necessary.

   Problems with current policy:
   - Suspension based on summer performance - -- Due to timing issues students are getting suspension letters after classes started.
   - New Transfer Students and/or First Semester Freshmen may earn a GPA below 1.0 and are not sent signals that they are in academic difficulty. There is limited to no intervention with this academically at risk group. The FYE may have some targeted programming.

   Recommendations for changes:
   - Vande Yacht suggested to take the summer piece out of the policy. Base suspension only on academic year performance.
   - Schultz and Martin suggested to better define “Probation” and “Suspension”. Current policy indicates what triggers the status and how to remove the status but does not define the meaning and consequences for students.

   There was a brief discussion on how changes to this policy would impacts for Student Services, Academic Success or other non-academic entities including FYE. Currently at least 400-500 may be on suspension during a given a semester. Cumulative there are about 100 suspensions each semester.

   Discussion of the current policy below resulted in changes as noted:

   (cont...)
Academic Suspension and Probation Policy

Good Academic Standing
Students are in good academic standing if they maintain a cumulative resident grade point average of 2.000 or greater.

Academic Probation
Students will be placed on academic probation if:

- They have completed 30 or more credits at UWRF and have earned a cumulative grade point average less than 2.000 at UWRF.
- They have completed less than 30 credits at UWRF and have a Fall, or Spring, or Summer semester GPA of less than 1.667.

To maintain enrollment, these students must meet with and establish an academic contract with their academic advisor or academic dean.
An F Grade counts as completed credits for the purpose of this policy.

- They are readmitted after having left UWRF while they were on probation or suspended for academic reasons.

Academic Suspension
Students will be suspended if any of the following items apply:

- Their semester and cumulative grade point average is less than 2.000 at the end of two successive semesters at UWRF.
- They have completed 30 or more credits at UWRF and have earned a Fall, or Spring or Summer semester GPA of less than 1.000.

Students do not need to be on probation for this suspension regulation to take effect.
An F grade counts as completed credits for the purpose of this policy.

Reentry After Suspension
A student who seeks reentry to the University after academic suspension may apply for readmission through the Registrar’s Office. The Dean of the college for which the student seeks reentry will make the reentry decision. Depending on the circumstances, it is the Dean’s prerogative to readmit the student or not and determine the length and criteria of the suspension.

The requirements for the Suspension and Probation policies passed by Faculty Senate, January 2008. (Motion 2007-08/21)

Committee members need to think about the definition of Probation and Suspension and comeback with the suggestions for how to better define these terms. Vande Yacht has some definitions from other institutions that will be reviewed by the committee.

Meeting adjourned @ 4.25p.m.