

Minutes
Senate Scholastic Standards Committee
November 28, 2007
(Approved Jan. 15, 2008)

Members: (attending members in bold): **Andrew Moiseff (Chair), John Bennett, Francine DeFranco**, Gerald Dunne, Gerald Gianutsos, **Lynne Goodstein**, Lawrence Gramling, Katrina Higgins, **Dirk Keaton, Jose Machado, Diane Lillo-Martin, Jeffrey von Munkwitz-Smith, Yuhang Rong, Lauren Smith**, David Wagner, **Robert Weiner**
Guest: **Mark Boyer**

1. The Nov. 14, 2007 minutes were approved.

2. TNE Dual Degree Proposal

Mark Boyer explained the details of the new dual degree proposal. This new version proposes that the current requirement that dual degree students to earn an extra 30-credits above what is needed for each of the two degrees be waived for Neag students.

One important reason to provide this exemption is that No Child Left Behind requires a discipline area specialization and degree; state requirements are expected to require this in the near future. The State does currently require a disciplinary major for certification, but their definition of ‘major’ is at variance with the NCLB definition. This proposal will greatly facilitate the ability of our Neag students to fulfill the area specialization requirement.

The obvious question came up: why not expand this to include dual majors in other Schools/Colleges? The consensus was that expanding this proposal to include all dual degree students would first require a university-wide discussion to understand the impact that such a broad policy would have. This current proposal addresses a programmatic imperative for the Neag School and it would not be appropriate to delay bringing this more limited motion to the Senate while discussions of a broader policy were taking place.

The committee voted unanimous approval to bring this motion to the Senate at the next, December 10, meeting.

3. At the request of the Senate Executive Committee we researched the University’s policy with respect to awarding posthumous degrees. The Registrar, Provost’s Office and Graduate School were consulted.

It has been the University’s policy that a posthumous degree can only be awarded if the student had the requisite credits (120 or more) and could meet all the requirements for graduation. There have been cases where a School/College waived specific degree requirements - but not the 120 credit minimum. (Such waivers are also given for living students, when deemed appropriate by the School/College.)

A “Certificate of Academic Achievement” was created in response to the 1992 recommendation by Senate Scholastic Standards committee for an alternative form of recognition to be developed. The certificate is available through the Provost’s Office. The Dean of Students office usually requests the certificate on behalf of the student’s family. The certificate reads:

University of Connecticut

CERTIFICATE OF ACADEMIC ACCOMPLISHMENT

The President Upon The Recommendation Of The Dean
Hereby Presents To
JONATHAN HUSKY

This Certificate of Academic Accomplishment
In Recognition of Academic Progress Toward Completing The

Bachelor of Science Degree

In Testimony Whereof This Certificate Is Presented Posthumously
This 9th Day of October, 2001

PRESIDENT

DEAN

The Graduate School also follows a consistent policy that graduate degrees are only awarded if a student completes his/her degree requirements. In the 4 cases since ~1980 where Doctorates were awarded posthumously, the students' works were published and compiled into a thesis. Although a final oral defense did not take place their committees accepted the publication of the papers and personal knowledge of the students' works and capabilities in place of their oral exams. The Dean of the Graduate School explicitly endorsed each case.

4. Distribution of joint FSC/SSC subcommittee report on the Teaching Learning and Assessment Report.

Bob Weiner gave a brief overview of the subcommittee's report. The biggest issues were of process. The report will be distributed to the Senate Executive Committee and the SEC, FSC and SSC will determine what further action is required.

5. Update: Academic Integrity/Misconduct Procedures – we will finalize our work on revising the misconduct procedures at the beginning of the spring semester.

6. Update: INTD Reorganization - report on meeting with Senate C&CC. Margaret Lamb and Andy Moiseff met with Senate C&CC to get their feedback on the INTD course review ideas. Senate C&CC was receptive to the concept that School/College C&CCs would review INTD courses 'owned' by their Schools/Colleges and that Senate C&CC might be the appropriate body to review courses that do are not 'owned' by academic units. There would probably have to be some change in the bylaws to give the Senate C&CC authority to review these courses, and in particular, upper level courses that would not normally be reviewed by the Senate. If the proposed INTD reorganization plan is accepted by the Provost further discussions will have to take place with Senate C&CC to iron out the necessary details before they would be able to assume this responsibility.