

## Scholastic Standards

### Minutes

Thursday, October 2, 2014

Hall Dorm

1:30-3:00pm

Attendees: Jill Livingston; Karen Bresciano; Bethany Brown; David Clokey; Susanna Cowan; Hedley Freake; Gerald Gianutsos; Larry Gramling; Katrina Higgins; Tom Recchio; Jennifer Lease Butts; Peter Tribuzio

Absent: Larry Armstrong; Stuart Brown; Robin Coulter; Joseph Crivello; Lauren Digrazia; Carolyn Teschke

Agenda:

- 1) Minutes from September 25, 2014 were approved
- 2) Updates from the September 26, 2014 SEC meeting
  - We should receive a grad student rep assignment this week
  - C&C will have a rep attend SSSC meetings
  - SSSC has 1 consent agenda item and 3 motions going forth at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting; there will be discussion of the Bunched Assessments Policy
  - SEC recognizes that a full-update of the By-Laws may be needed and will look to undertake this project after Cheryl Galli gets more familiar with the work of the Senate (probably next year)
  - We were asked to consider the impact of the 15 minute passage time between classes on student athletes, since it pushes the 4<sup>th</sup> block start from 3pm to 3:35pm

- 3) Motion to change the By-Laws section of Scholastic Probation and Dismissal

Discussion: Final grammatical improvements were put into place. Also, the issue of repeat forgiveness on past academic standing was discussed. Due to PeopleSoft limitations, if a student either repeats a class for a higher grade or takes classes after dismissal that increase their GPA to >2.0, the notation of Academic Probation is retroactively removed from the academic record. Neither the notation that a student was on AP nor the semester GPA should change.

Decision: The motion was approved and will be presented at the October 6<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting. The issues related to PeopleSoft will be discussed with the Registrar. The repeat forgiveness policy will be brought forth for discussion at a November SSSC meeting.

- 4) Discussion of student absences from classes (see below for the Class Attendance Policy from the By-Laws and the policy from the Provost's Office on Absences from Class, Missed Work, and Student Activities)

Discussion: The Class Attendance policy is an exception to the general rule that, “Instructors of undergraduate courses shall provide a clear form of assessment of student work that shall be consistent with and sufficient for the learning goals of the course.” (motion to change the By-Laws II.E.12. Semester Examinations and Assessments to be presented 10/06/2014) While those student who miss classes due to university obligated activities should be protected from grade depreciation due to those absences, considering By-Laws section II.E.12, it is anomalous to bar faculty from using attendance as a factor in grade computation. Online courses should be considered in relation to this policy. Another aspect of the broader discussion is that faculty accommodate excused absences according to different practices.

Decision: We will seek advisement on this matter at the next SEC meeting.

#### Senate By-Laws: 11. *Class Attendance*

The faculties of the University consider attendance at classes a privilege which is extended to students when they are admitted to the University and for as long as they are in good standing. The Instructor concerned is given full and final authority (except in the case of final examinations) to decide whether or not a student is permitted to make up work missed by absence and on what terms.

Instructors are expected to turn in grades which indicate the extent to which the student has mastered the work of the course. In some courses, the demonstration of mastery may depend in part on classroom activity (e.g., oral recitation or discussion or laboratory work). In such courses, absences may affect the student's accomplishments and so be reflected in grading; however, grades are not to be reduced merely because of a student's absences as such. In all courses instructors are expected to indicate at the beginning of the semester how they will determine the student's grades.

As an exception to the general rule concerning absences, if a student does not attend any of the classes or laboratories of a course during the first two weeks of the semester and does not notify the Department of Student Affairs of the reasons for his or her absence, the instructor may assign his or her seat to another student. Such non-attendees may, after the second week, request to continue in the course on the same basis as a student not registered for the course.

If space is not available for such a non-attende, the student must drop the course by the regular procedure or run the risk of being assigned a failing grade (See II.B.10, paragraph 7).

In the event that the University is closed due to inclement weather or other emergency on a regularly scheduled class day, instructors are expected to make reasonable attempts to complete all stated course learning objectives by the last day of classes. Approaches that an instructor may use to ensure the completion of all stated course learning objectives include, but are not limited to:

- a. Scheduling class make up on the “Emergency Closing Make Up Date(s)” designated by the Registrar’s Office in the University Calendar.
- b. Scheduling class make up at other times
- c. Extending class times
- d. Using educational technology and other not in-person alternatives.

In all situations in which stated course objectives would be completed outside of the regularly scheduled class time, it is essential that instructors should be sensitive to students' inability to attend these alternative class times due to unavoidable conflicts such as, but not limited to, religious observances and other previously scheduled University obligations. Reasonable accommodation should be offered to students with such conflicts.

#### ATTACHMENT #49

Annual Report of the President's Athletic Advisory Committee  
To University Senate  
May 1, 2006  
Susan Spiggle, Chair

#### Highlights from 05-06 PAAC meetings and Subcommittee activities

A University Recreational Facility. A University Recreational facility is sorely needed on campus. A campus recreation facility would take some pressure off athletic facilities. UConn had 71,000 participations in the recreation facilities in September.

Learning Needs. At its April 5 meeting PAAC unanimously passed: We endorse the expansion of CPIA's ability to define and meet the learning needs of our student athletes. We request that sufficient funds be allocated immediately to retain professional services for CPIA's diagnostic needs. PAAC further recommends that the University form an ad hoc committee (outside the PAAC) to explore the specifics of the need for resources to address the learning needs of students at UConn.

Counseling Program for Intercollegiate Athletes (CPIA). In its 20th year CPIA does not report to the Division of Athletics, but to the Provost. This structure helps CPIA not compromise students' academic integrity and permits CPIA to offer counseling to student-athletes regardless of their sport. The Athletics Department and CPIA are in close contact, helping student-athletes to maximize their academic performance and to make the transition to college academics and to life after college sports. Former student-athletes also help CPIA with this effort.

Academic Progress of Student Athletes. The NCAA instituted a multi-year APR with a four year rolling average. Six of UConn's athletic teams are reported to be below standards. We met NCAA standards in all sports given the confidence boundary. The University is preparing academic improvement plans for each of the six teams for NCAA.

#### The Academic Subcommittee

The Subcommittee worked to get a policy from Provost's Office on Absences from Class, Missed Work, and Student Activities." This statement will be issued at the beginning of both semesters by the Provost's Office

"Instructors should seriously consider accommodating student requests to complete work missed by absence due to extra curricular/co-curricular activities performed in the interest of the University and/or supporting the scholarly development of the student, when such accommodations would not dilute or

preclude the requirements or learning outcomes for the course. Examples of such activities include participation in scholarly presentations, performing arts, and intercollegiate athletics, when the participation is at the request of, or coordinated by, a University official. Students involved in such activities should inform their instructor in writing prior to the anticipated absence and take the initiative to make up missed work in a timely fashion.”

The Subcommittee is also working to better address issues regarding course scheduling for student athletes in majors with labs, practicums etc.

JL 10-03-2014