

Minutes

Senate Scholastic Standards Committee (SSSC)

October 8, 2013

Hall Dorm, Room 123, 1:00 PM

SSSC Members (attending in **BOLD**): **Gerald Gianutsos (Chair)**, Robin Chazdon, **David Clokey**, **Joseph Crivello**, Dipak Dey, **Lauren DiGrazia**, **Johann Peter Gogarten**, **Lawrence Gramling**, **Katrina Higgins**, Elena Innes (Undergraduate student representative), Jennifer Lease Butts (ex-officio), **Jill Livingston**, Felicia Pratto, **John Meyers** (Undergraduate student representative), Thomas Recchio, Christopher Tomaszewski (Graduate student representative).

Non Members Present: Monica van Buesekom (Representing Honors Program).

1. Minutes of the 09/26/13 meeting were approved.
2. Old Business –
 - a. Katrina Higgins agreed to serve as SSSC representative to the Senate Diversity Committee,
 - b. Gerry Gianutsos reported that the Transfer Credit/Residency Requirement motion passed at the September 26 meeting was presented to the Senate Executive Committee and was received with some skepticism. SSC discussed this further and agreed that there are additional concerns that will require attention in the future.
3. Course Syllabi – Discussion of a course syllabus requirement continued. Joe Crivello proposed a motion:

All faculty must provide a syllabus to students in their classes. The syllabus must include student expectations (e.g., disability access, attendance policy, academic conduct) and course assessments (e.g., exams, projects, papers, etc.).

In addition, faculty are encouraged to consider putting additional information in the syllabus, such as, course overview and objectives, prerequisites, supplementary information, grade policy, notification of weather related class or exam cancellations, lab requirements and policy, and policy on religious observances.

After discussion, Crivello offered a revised motion which was passed by email vote subsequent to the meeting:

All faculty must provide a syllabus to students in their classes. The syllabus must include faculty expectations of students and course assessments (exams, final exams, papers, etc.).

In addition, faculty are encouraged to consider putting additional information in the syllabus, such as, disability access, attendance policy, academic conduct, course overview and learning objectives, prerequisites, supplementary information, grade policy, notification of weather-related class or exam cancellations, lab requirements and policy, and policy on religious observances.

The motion will be forwarded to the Courses and Curriculum and Faculty Standards Committees for comment.

4. Graduate Courses Fulfilling Honors Requirements: Since Jennifer Lease Butts was unable to attend the meeting, further discussion on this topic was tabled until the next meeting.
5. Dismissal Policy for Seniors: Katrina Higgins brought up an issue requested by a Senate member (Phil Mannheim) that seniors be exempt from dismissal from the University. The SSC was not supportive of this proposal concluding, among other things, that students could coast in the senior year and that it may not be in the student's best interest to continue if prospects for graduation are futile. Since seniors may appeal dismissal decisions, exceptions can continue to be handled on a case-by-case basis.
6. Reappraisal of the Course Forgiveness Policy: Katrina Higgins asked the SSSC to reconsider the course forgiveness policy whereby a student may repeat a course and have the grade obtained in previous attempts be dropped from the GPA calculation. In part, the request was made due to enrollment pressures. She presented data (attached) on the frequency of repeats since 2009 and noted that many involve more challenging, high enrollment classes serving as pre-requisites. She was asked how many repeats were by students who took these courses in High School; she will attempt to find out.

Discussion on the history, intent and consequences of the policy ensued. Higgins indicated that CLAS will initiate a pilot project this semester which will bar repeaters from registering for certain courses until all first time students have had an opportunity to register. SSSC will resume deliberations on this issue after the results of the pilot can be assessed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 7, 3:00 – 4:30 PM, Hall Dorm Rm. 123.

ATTACHMENT - COURSE REPEATS

**Total # Courses Repeated Each
Semester, winter 2009 - fall 2013**

Winter 2009	17
Spring 2009	613
Summer 2009	481
Fall 2009	921
Winter 2010	38
Spring 2010	1302
Summer 2010	679
Fall 2010	1287
Winter 2011	109
Spring 2011	1494
Summer 2011	799
Fall 2011	1393
Spring 2012	1605
Summer 2012	883
Fall 2012	1491
Winter 2013	77
Spring 2013	1539
Summer 2013	811
Fall 2013	1501

**Student Standing When
Repeating, Winter 2009 - fall
2013**

Freshman	1685
Sophomore	4967
Junior	4925
Senior	5463

MOST FREQUENTLY REPEATED COURSES (Winter 2009 - Fall 2013)

	Winter 2009	Spring 2009	Summer 2009	Fall 2009	Winter 2010	Spring 2010	Summer 2010	Fall 2010	Winter 2011	Spring 2011	Summer 2011	Fall 2011	Winter 2012	Spring 2012	Summer 2012	Fall 2012	Winter 2013	Spring 2013	Summer 2013	Fall 2013	TOTALS	
ACCT 2001	3	30	12	6	3	25	25	14	16	24	17	20	0	29	31	25	12	33	32	15	372	
BHOL 1102	0	2	3	4	0	3	2	12	0	9	6	4	0	7	7	8	0	10	8	9	94	
BHOL 1107	0	12	26	11	0	31	8	38	0	31	32	35	0	33	51	45	0	43	37	40	473	
BHOL 1108	0	1	1	2	0	11	5	3	0	10	7	7	0	15	11	6	0	21	5	6	111	
CE 2110	0	23	2	5	6	15	7	8	2	16	11	5	0	23	7	8	5	16	7	7	166	
CHEM 1127Q	0	36	42	40	0	43	75	41	0	31	81	45	0	46	72	46	0	33	60	38	729	
CHEM 1128Q	0	4	21	11	0	34	51	24	0	25	47	16	0	23	53	14	0	25	37	7	392	
CHEM 2443	0	16	8	36	0	58	19	47	0	51	27	45	0	41	30	29	0	55	26	39	527	
CHEM 2444	0	17	8	16	0	34	13	22	0	30	20	22	0	45	36	40	0	50	30	35	418	
COMM 1000	0	2	5	7	3	4	6	10	10	17	22	18	0	19	17	28	7	29	25	28	267	
ECON 1201	0	4	10	10	1	17	12	18	5	11	6	17	0	18	8	23	12	25	9	19	225	
ECON 1202	0	14	4	8	0	11	5	7	0	27	5	17	0	26	6	15	0	16	7	23	191	
ECON 2201	0	4	4	10	0	10	4	8	4	16	5	10	0	8	2	5	0	10	3	9	112	
ENGL 1010	0	12	5	13	0	24	8	21	0	23	4	17	0	25	4	13	0	19	8	10	206	
ENGL 1011	0	13	5	14	0	29	11	11	0	26	4	16	0	22	2	18	0	22	1	19	203	
GEOG 1700	1	8	5	3	2	12	1	10	4	14	9	8	0	10	15	12	2	11	10	12	159	
HDS 1070	0	4	1	7	3	10	1	12	5	6	5	18	0	20	3	7	3	11	18	10	144	
HIST 1400	4	3	2	4	0	12	8	6	1	19	10	11	0	14	7	12	2	8	4	10	214	
MATH 1060Q	1	17	5	14	0	20	16	12	5	13	4	12	0	24	8	16	2	18	8	8	25	214
MATH 1070Q	3	17	11	35	4	29	16	33	8	32	21	33	0	38	23	25	0	24	12	35	399	
MATH 1071Q	0	3	7	9	5	22	14	10	8	23	5	12	0	32	31	24	6	31	24	27	293	
MATH 1131Q	0	60	22	33	0	67	28	61	0	77	67	48	0	84	45	73	0	47	32	63	807	
MATH 1132Q	0	32	29	47	0	53	31	45	0	48	40	43	0	53	54	41	0	43	60	48	667	
MATH 2110Q	0	16	7	30	0	24	22	22	0	34	9	18	0	23	14	29	0	32	13	37	330	
MATH 2210Q	0	9	7	7	0	12	6	13	0	11	4	8	0	11	9	9	0	13	4	17	140	
MATH 2410Q	0	17	22	13	0	23	14	19	0	17	8	14	0	16	8	16	0	28	14	13	242	
MCB 2000	0	5	22	14	0	15	18	11	0	29	19	13	0	27	17	16	0	21	8	17	262	
MCB 2410	0	3	0	12	0	17	0	30	0	7	0	32	0	24	0	26	0	18	3	3	200	
MCB 2610	0	3	1	15	0	5	4	7	0	9	4	10	0	7	2	13	0	13	2	2	105	
MUSC 1165	0	7	1	3	0	0	0	7	0	10	3	14	0	13	2	12	4	16	2	2	111	
PNB 2264	0	0	4	11	0	0	13	20	0	19	0	33	0	9	0	51	0	24	0	45	229	
PNB 2265	0	2	1	0	0	7	4	0	0	13	0	0	0	13	8	0	0	9	0	10	67	
PSYC 1100	0	13	14	24	0	26	17	42	0	25	31	36	0	38	34	44	0	32	24	48	448	
SOCI 1001	0	2	5	2	0	4	10	9	0	11	2	5	0	7	6	12	0	15	9	10	109	
STAT 1000Q	1	1	16	8	1	15	15	14	5	28	22	13	0	30	23	17	0	27	21	22	279	
STAT 1100Q	0	1	6	3	0	16	9	10	0	17	17	11	0	16	12	21	0	18	10	21	188	
TOTALS	13	413	344	487	28	738	492	677	73	809	574	686	0	899	658	799	55	866	566	823		