

Faculty Senate
ACADEMIC STANDARDS COUNCIL – 2013-2014
Final Report 2013-2014

Members:

Laura Fattal, Education
Robert Laud, Business
Jill Nocella, Nursing
Regina Pappalardo, Communications
Mark Sandford, Cheng Library
Warren Sandmann, Administration
Christine Smith, Student Support Services
Neici Zeller, Humanities/History (Chair)

Council Charges:

1. Discuss and propose a modification to the existing Declaration of Major Policy
2. Collaborate with the Technology Council on the revision of the existing Policy on Online and Hybrid Courses
3. Discuss and propose revisions to the existing Course Repeat Policy
4. Discuss and propose revisions to the existing Add/Drop Date Policy

During the academic year, September 2013 – May 2014, the Council met seven times. At some of these meetings the ASC asked members of the professional staff from various Offices to assist us in studying the policies under revision.

1. Charge #1 – Declaration of Major: The ASC discussed and presented a resolution on the number of credits a student should take before declaring a major. The current policy stood at 60 credits; the rationale to reduce the number of credits to 45 was that this would allow improved advisement and career guidance. The revised policy was debated in the Senate and approved on October 22, 2013.

TEXT OF APPROVED POLICY

2. Charge #2 – Online and Hybrid Courses: The ASC collaborated with the Senate Technology Council on revisions to the Online and Hybrid Courses Policy. This policy (as explained in greater detail in the Technology Council's report) underwent several iterations, and was approved by the Senate on March 25, 2013.
3. Charge #3 – Course Repeat Policy: The ASC also devoted a substantive amount of time to the Course Repeat Policy. A proposal that would allow students to repeat any course in which they had obtained a grade of C minus or lower was presented to the Senate on January 14, 2014. Said proposal was not approved, and the ASC has since taken on the task of engaging the university community in a wider discussion on the issue. To that end, the ASC held an open meeting with several representatives from Offices that are interested in or would be affected by a change in the current policy. These representatives were:

Dorothy Feola, Education
Tom Gundling, HSS
Francisco Diaz, Campus Life
Nina Trelisky, Registrar
J. Bone, UCC and HSS

As a result of this meeting, the ASC will work on preparing a document that will serve as a starting point for future discussions of the Course Repeat Policy.

4. Charge #4 – Add/Drop Dates: The ASC ran out of time in the spring semester to be able to discuss this policy adequately and present a proposal to the Faculty Senate.