

**Academic Standards Council
Meeting of October 26, 2010, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon
Atrium, Room 258**

Present: L. Gazzillo Diaz, R. Kearney, F. Li, S. Mankiw, H. Maratouk, I. Olaye, E. Stroppel, K. Vassilev

Absent: S. Mankiw

1) Agenda - The Council approved the agenda.

2) Minutes of September 30, 2010 Meeting – The Council approved the minutes of the September 30, 2010 meeting.

3) Report from Council Chairs Luncheon – Stroppel provided a brief report on the Council Chairs luncheon. Members of the Senate Executive Committee offered an overview of some of the year’s expected priorities for Senate business.

4) Discussion of Additional Charge #7 – Proposed modification to maximum number of credits that can be applied to undergraduate majors from transfer students:

The **current policy** (which appears on page 13 of the Undergraduate Catalog) states in the section on “Transfer Students”:

“There are some limitations on the number of credits accepted, e.g....**no more than 15 transfer credits required for a major will be accepted...**”

It is proposed that this language be changed to the following:

“There are some limitations on the number of credits accepted, e.g....**no more than half the credits in a major will be accepted, consistent with state requirements and the requirements of specialized accrediting bodies for individual majors...**”

This proposed change addresses two issues:

- a) It “equalizes” transfer credit eligibility for students among all majors, regardless of the number of credits required; and
- b) It attempts to clarify a distinction between those courses/credits within the major and those that may be required (e.g., pre-requisite courses) but which are not, strictly speaking, part of the major and which therefore may be eligible for transfer acceptance independent of the maximum for the major.

The Council agreed to this change and to submit the proposed modification to the Senate for consideration.

5) Discussion of Additional Charge #1 - Report on the number of credit hours required for a student (including transfer students) to receive Latin honors (i.e. cum laude, magna cum laude, summa cum laude) on graduation.

The **current policy** (which appears on page 50 of the Undergraduate Catalog) states in the section on “Academic Honors”:

Students who have completed at least 64 credits – not including credits earned with pass/fail grades – at William Paterson University and who graduate with a final grade point average of 3.45 or better for all undergraduate courses are recognized as honor students with the following designations:

Average of 3.45-3.64 = *cum laude*

Average of 3.65-3.84 = *magna cum laude*

Average of 3.85-4.00 = *summa cum laude*

It is proposed that this language be changed to the following:

Students who have completed at least 48 credits – not including credits earned with pass/fail grades – at William Paterson University and who graduate with a final grade point average of 3.45 or better for all undergraduate courses are recognized as honor students with the following designations:

Average of 3.45-3.64 = *cum laude*

Average of 3.65-3.84 = *magna cum laude*

Average of 3.85-4.00 = *summa cum laude*

A majority of the Council agreed to this change and to submit the proposed modification to the Senate for consideration.

5) Discussion of Additional Charge #2 –Develop a form for implementation of the video and audio recording in class policy.

The Council agreed to complete work on the form (begun last year - Kearney is working on the draft) and to submit this to the Senate for consideration.

6) Discussion of Additional Charge #3 – Develop strategies to implement and communicate the Academic Integrity Policy approved by the Senate on September 8, 2008.

The new Academic Integrity Policy is currently under attorney review in Trenton, and until this is completed it cannot be implemented, but the Council began a discussion of how the policy might be communicated once the review is complete.

7) Next Meeting/Adjournment – The next meeting of the Council will be on Tuesday, November 16, at the Valley Road Building (Li hosting). The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Kearney