

Academic Standards Council
Meeting of September 30, 2010, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon
Library, Room 107

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

1) Agenda - The Council approved the agenda.

2) Election of Chair/Co-Chairs - Following a brief discussion, the Council elected Kearney and Stroppel to serve as Co-Chairs for 2010-2011.

3) Discuss Standing and Additional Charges - The Council reviewed its charges for the year, starting with the additional charges:

#7 - A proposed revision to the language in the undergraduate catalog pertaining to the maximum number of credits in a major that can be accepted in transfer; this was designated as a first priority for consideration this year. The current policy sets the maximum number of credits to the absolute figure of 15, and it is proposed that this be revised to the relative value of “no more than half” the credits required for a major. The Council discussed this issue and agreed that the basic principle is fine, although actual practices must be consistent with state requirements and the requirements of specialized accrediting bodies for individual majors. Council members agreed to investigate the situation with individual majors in their colleges and report back at the next meeting.

#1 - Possible revision to the existing policy on the minimum number of credits taken at WPUNJ to meet the eligibility requirements for graduation with Latin Honors – The Council will resume discussion of this issue, most likely in communication with the Admissions and Enrollment Management Council.

#2 – Develop a Form for Implementation of the Video and Audio Recording in Class Policy – This work is largely completed and will be finalized at our next meeting.

#3 – Develop strategies to implement and communicate the Academic Integrity Policy approved by the Senate on September 8, 2008 – The new AIP has not yet been approved by the University; it is apparently still pending state attorney review (Olaye agreed to check on the current status of the policy). In the meantime, however, the Council can work on strategies for policy communication and implementation, especially among faculty.

#4 – Develop recommendations for best pedagogical practices to maximize online learning and instruction – The Council’s subcommittee will continue its work on this charge this year using the previously approved online instruction policy as a framework to inform its recommendations.

#5 – Identify resources for online instruction – The Council will request clarification of this charge from the Senate Executive Committee.

#6 – Review incomplete grade policy - The Council will request clarification of this charge from the Senate Executive Committee.

Regarding Standing Charge #3 (“Liaise with university officials responsible for all academic policy matters to conduct an ongoing review of their effectiveness.”): The Council will also discuss with the Senate Executive Committee its sense of the scope of this charge. We will also need to develop/adopt measures of policy effectiveness that will be agreeable to all.

4) Set Meeting Schedule – The Council agreed to the following meeting dates for the rest of the Fall semester:

- October 26 (Vassilev hosting)
- November 18 (Li hosting)
- December 9 (Location TBD)

5) Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Kearney