
**ACADEMIC POLICY COUNCIL
MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2008**



Absent: Brown (Beverly Irby attended), Lewis (Leroy Ashorn attended), Payne, Ward (Delia Gallinaro attended), Whitaker

1. Approval of APC minutes of December 5, 2007. The minutes were approved as presented.
2. Council of Academic Deans minutes of November 28 and December 12, 2007, and January 9, 2008. The minutes were reviewed.
3. Update on Review of Academic Policy Statements.
 - a. APS 910116—Off-Campus Instruction. On behalf of the Faculty Senate, Debra Price reported that the Senate had reviewed the referenced policy and endorsed it as modified.
 - b. APS 950809—Conflict of Interest Policy Pertaining to Sponsored Projects. Dean Hebert indicated the review of the policy is in progress. The policy will be placed on a future APC agenda.
 - c. APS 800722—Promotions in Rank and Merit Advances in Salary Within Rank. The review of the policy is in progress. The policy will be placed on a future APC agenda.
 - d. APS 980204—Performance Evaluation of Tenured Faculty. The review of the policy is in progress. The policy will be placed on a future APC agenda.
 - e. APS 810806—Student Educational Records. Dr. Eglsaer indicated that rather than listing all details of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) in the Student Educational Records policy, the possibility of linking to the FERPA website is being explored. The topic will be placed on a future APC agenda.
4. Advanced hours. Currently 42 hours of advanced work must be completed for a degree of 128 hours. With the reduction of degree requirements to 120 hours, the Council of Academic Deans made the following recommendations:
 - continue to require 42 semester hours of advanced work
 - continue to allow 66 hours of transfer credit
 - require 30 residence hours (the residence requirement, by state law, is 25 percent of the number of hours required by the degree)

The motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendations made by CAD related to reducing degree requirements from 128 to 120. Passed unanimously.

5. Raising math requirements. Dr. Eglsaer stated that currently the completion of freshman-level math prior to taking upper-level classes is required. In addition, continuous enrollment in remediation until the student is TSI compliant is required. In the area of mathematics, that policy would require students to be enrolled through MTH 031. However MTH 032 is a prerequisite for all students with THEA scores lower than 270. Based on this information, the Council of Academic Deans recommended that students be required to remain in the math remedial sequence (MTH 031-MTH 032) until they are eligible to take a freshman-level math class. The motion was made and seconded to accept the recommendation made by the Council of Academic Deans that students be required to remain in the math remedial sequence (MTH 031-MTH 032) until they are eligible to take a freshman-level math class. Passed unanimously.
6. Requirements for the BS and BA degrees. Dr. Eglsaer indicated that a question had arisen about whether or not there is an official University policy regulating degree requirements. Ten years ago, it was clearly stated that the B.S. degree would need 16 hours of lab science classes and 9 hours of math/science electives. The BA required extra classes in the humanities and 12 hours of language. That system has eroded over the years. After discussion of the topic, Dr. Price agreed to take the matter to the Faculty Senate for discussion. The matter will be placed on a future APC agenda after Senate review.
7. RDG 011. RDG 011 was initiated to create a more positive learning environment for students who were considered marginally underprepared by their reading score on one of four different placement tests. To fulfill TSI requirements, students must enroll in RDG 011 simultaneously with two intensive-reading courses and attain at least a grade of “C” in all three courses. Data revealed that the majority of students whose higher placement test scores allowed them to take RDG 011 were not successful. The motion was made and seconded to no longer offer RDG 011; students who do not score high enough on the THEA must take RDG 031. Passed unanimously.
8. International English Language Testing System (IELTS). IELTS is similar to the TOEFL in that it tests English skills. The areas tested include listening, reading, writing, and speaking, and the student is given an overall score. The motion was made and seconded to accept IELTS scores for undergraduate students of 5.5 (restrict classes which can be taken) and 6.5 (unrestricted). Passed unanimously.
9. APS 900417, Faculty Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion. Dean de Castro proposed adding a statement to section 11.a. of the referenced policy. The last sentence should read:

. . . Individual faculty members who are not notified may also choose to apply; these faculty members must meet the same standards of performance as those who are notified by their chairs and must notify their chairs and deans, in writing, by the second Monday in October of their intent to apply.

The motion was made and seconded to accept the addition. Passed unanimously.

10. Miscellaneous.

- a. APS 860110, Shortened Format Courses. Dean Hebert proposed removing the first sentence in section 2.02 and replacing it with a new statement as indicated below:

2.02 ~~Admission to shortened format courses must follow the same standards as all regular credit courses.~~ *Applicants must have a 2.5 GPA to enroll in a mini semester course and meet all additional course prerequisites. In addition, applicants are restricted to one mini semester course per session.*

The motion was made and seconded to accept the revision. Passed unanimously.

Exceptions must be approved by the dean of the college of the major.

- b. Computer Services presentation to Senate. Mr. Adams stated that he would be meeting with the Faculty Senate on February 28.
- c. Addition of databases. Ms. Holder indicated that new databases had been added in the library.
- d. Registering for two classes offered at the same time. Dr. Price stated that students sometimes register for two classes which are offered at the same time. The computer does not prevent this from happening. The recommendation was made to require the student to choose which class to register for when there is a conflict of class time, i.e., the computer will not allow the student to register for classes which have conflicting class times. The motion was made and seconded to implement this procedure. Passed unanimously.
- e. Transportation between The University Center and the SHSU campus. Dr. Eglsaer reported that the possibility and feasibility of a transportation system as referenced continues to be studied.
- f. Follow-up on grant awards. Ms. Gallinaro reported that an analysis is being conducted of all faculty who have been awarded internal grants to determine what happened after the grant was awarded.
- g. Monitoring probationary students. Dr. Fleming reported that a new program has been established whereby students on probation are being monitored; referred to the monitoring team by the advisors.
- h. QEP. Dr. Eglsaer reported that the integrated science program was the topic chosen for the QEP.

Dorothy Roberson
Recorder