

Senate Academic Standards Council

Annual Report 2014-2015

Council Members: Pamela Brillante, Jill Nocella, Regina Pappalardo, Mark Sandford (Chair), Christine Smith, Neici Zeller. Administration Liaison: Warren Sandmann

The bulk of this year's work was focused on revising the University's Course Repeat Policy. The Council met with Associate Deans from the colleges, as well as representatives from various units including the Registrar, Advisement and Academic Success. Several Senate meetings included discussions and recommendations, but no consensus was reached. In talking with various departments, one central question emerged: What is the relationship between University policies and departmental policies?

The Academic Standards Council worked with the Advisement and Registration Council to review the Withdrawal policy. It was decided that ASC would include Withdrawals in some way in the Course Repeat Policy while A&R would focus on the advisement facet of students withdrawing from courses.

The ASC submitted to the Senate, and the Senate passed, three program-related recommendations:

- Program Dismissal Policy for the Department of Nursing
- NCLEX Score Admissions Policy change for the Department of Nursing
- Admission and Retention policy change for the Department of Kinesiology's Athletic Training Professional Preparation Phase of the Athletic Training Major
- Change in credits required for Latin Honors at graduation for transfer students

Recommendations for next year's Council:

- We need a policy on policies; specifically, we need to codify the relationship between University and Department policies. Can Departments/Programs have policies that are stricter than the University's? Can they have policies that are less strict than the University's? If Departments and Programs can set their own standards, are they applied to students (by major/minor) or to courses? In other words, can the Mathematics Department limit how often a Chemistry major can take a required math course, or can the Chemistry Department permit their students to take a required math course more often than a Biology major is allowed? What happens if a student changes majors?
- What role should the ASC play in the review and development of University academic standards?
- A review of the plagiarism policy, specifically in light of new issues that arise from teaching online.