

COMMITTEE: Admission and Retention Policies Committee

MEETING DATE: Monday, April 6, 2015

PERSON PRESIDING: Jonathan Morris

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Allison Danell, Melinda Doty, Michael Duffy, Katie Flanagan, Amy Frank

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Fletcher, Jayne Geissler, Derek Maher

ACTIONS OF THE MEETING

Agenda Item: Review the Minutes for February 2, 2015.

Action Taken: Minutes approved

Announcements:

- Cameron Jennings, CEO of SyllabEye.com spoke to the committee about a new digital application designed for a smart phone that will allow students to upload educational materials onto their iPhone or Droid. The application is being tested in FIN 1904 in the College of Education.
- The committee would like to express its appreciation for the regular attendance at its 2014-2015 meetings of representatives from the Student Government Association. Mia Leone, the committee member, and Andrew Bowers both attended meetings. Leone and Bowers are both cabinet members of SGA.
- During ECU Spring Break, Morris attended the meeting of the American Council for Education (ACE) Alternative Credit Project. He discussed ACE's reasons for supporting alternative courses and the choice of courses that could be offered at ECU. Additionally, ACE courses could be transferred in from other colleges and universities. The committee discussed the quality and numbers of such courses that might be offered through ACE. Morris recommended that this project should stay on the committee's radar.
- ECU's Ad-Hoc Committee on Retention for At-Risk First Year Students met on Monday, March 30. Members of the committee include Jonathan Morris, Katie Flanagan, Miriam Eples, Kathy Hill, Tracy Morse, Karen Thompson Elizabeth Coghill, Nita Boyce, April Church, and Dorothy Muller. The ad-hoc committee will report to the Admission and Retention Policies Committee in Fall semester 2015.

Unfinished Business:

Geissler reported that the document, Fostering Undergraduate Student Success (FUSS), was set aside by the Chancellor for further study. The key provisions of the new *Student Success Policies* were developed by the University's working group on promoting undergraduate student success in order to address recent changes to the UNC Policy Manual 400.1.5[G] and approved by the Admission and Retention Policies Committee. The document was submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval in December 2014.

New Business:

Agenda Item: Grade Change Codes on OneStop

Angela Anderson has generated a new report for the College of Arts and Sciences. The report provides the college with a complete list of grade changes and their reasons. Maher has listed four categories, including 1) instructor calculation error, 2) instructor entry error, 3) late grade submission, and 4) removal of incomplete.

Discussion: Maher asked the committee if there were other categories that would be meaningful for the grade change form? An additional category could be listed as "other." Problem areas are independent studies, changes of letter grades, and perhaps "paper" classes. Classes are monitored if they include more than 20% student athletes or if the grades are higher overall. John Fletcher, Nita Boyce and others check this out regularly. Fletcher noted that the University looks at grade distribution.

Action Taken: The committee will continue to monitor this development of grade change codes. The recommendation was made to ask Angela Anderson if she could talk about this report at the next meeting of Deans and Directors.

Agenda Item: Cap on Transfer Courses

Discussion: Geissler distributed to the committee her March 30 memo to Morris on a proposed 10-year cap on transfer courses. She pointed out that it is common practice to place a time limit on transfer courses. She asked if it were possible to place a 7-year cap on transfer courses, which seems to be a trend in the UNC system and elsewhere. Appalachian University has a 10-year limit. At present, ECU counts all transferable courses, no matter how old, which results in surcharges for students for courses that are transferable but often not applicable to a program or degree. The memo includes 9 reasons for capping transfer credits. The pros of such a policy would include: 1) cutting down on potential student surcharges, 2) departments could petition to add credit for courses not considered for transfer, 3) research for older courses to determine transferability is not always successful, 4) course numbers and prefixes may have

changed over the years resulting in additional time spent on transcripts, 5) course content may have changed over the years and course description may not be readily available, 6) age cap on courses would decrease time spent on transfer evaluations of credit, 7) departments can submit course substitutions via Degree Works rather than modify course equivalencies, 8) multiple departments are already making students retake courses completed years ago for their programs, 9) age cap could potentially decrease interest in 2+2 articulations for AAS degrees other than INDT/NURS the courses for INDT/NURS are already approved with a confirmed degree, there would be a lot more preparation, research, and involvement for the 2+2 agreements to be created with the courses that would fall within the 10-year cap.

Action: The committee will invite Angela Anderson to our fall meetings to assist the committee in developing a course of action on transfer credit time limitations.

The committee adjourned at 5:10 p.m.