COMMITTEE: Admission and Retention Policies Committee

MEETING DATE: Monday, November 3, 2014

PERSON PRESIDING: Jonathan Morris

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

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Edward Apetz, John Fletcher, Mia Leone, Derek Maher

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: John Given

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ACTIONS OF THE MEETING

Agenda Item: Approval of the Minutes

Action Taken: Minutes were approved with the following amendment: Mia Leone is listed as an ex-officio member, and Andrew Bowers is a guest.

Morris announced that Jayne Geissler could not attend this meeting.

Agenda Item: Report from the Working Group on Fostering Undergraduate Student Success regarding proposed changes to ECU retention policies.

Discussion: The committee continued discussion of the new student retention policy changes outlined in the document, Student Success Policies. Policy Changes for Fall 2015, distributed for the October 6 meeting. Morris pointed out that at the October meeting the committee supported the good academic standing flat 2.0 retention rate and the two semester warning and probation period that would precede a one-semester suspension for students whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0. A student (whose cumulative average is below 2.0) who earns a GPA of 2.5 or higher during the semester on probation may continue on probation. Undergraduate degree-seeking students who are enrolled in 12+ attempted credit hours during their first semester (fall or spring) will be academically suspended if they receive a GPA of 0 (including “I” incomplete grades) for that semester.

The committee then discussed the second part of the proposed new policy changes that pertain to academic standing. Danell pointed out that the new UNC FUSS policy calls for an academic warning system, but not a suspension. Students who are not making satisfactory academic progress (SAP) will be warned and also face the additional 140 student hour surcharge (see UNC Policy Manual 400.1.5[G], adopted 08/01/2014, and distributed to the committee in early October as Guidelines Related to Fostering
Undergraduate Student Success for rules on withdrawals and the implementation of an 
early warning system). Fletcher stated that courses dropped by students in other 
universities would not count in their academic progress calculation at ECU. The 
committee members agreed that there should be consistency in advisement and 
registration at favoring a high percentage rate for satisfactory academic progress. 
Supporting an academic progress ratio of 80%, required for financial aid, will provide 
motivation for students over the course of their education.

Action Taken: Motion to adopt the key provisions of the new Students Success Policies 
for Fall 2015. The motion was made by Danell; second by Flanagan. The motion passed.

The motion was stated as follows:
1. A student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 is placed on warning. If, during the 
   semester that the student is on warning, the cumulative GPA falls below 2.0, then the 
   student is placed on probation. If, during the semester on probation, the cumulative GPA 
   falls below 2.0, then the student is suspended from the university for one semester. 
   Students will be allowed to take summer courses during warning and probation periods. 
2. A student on probation who has below a 2.0 cumulative GPA will continue on 
   probation if he/she earns at least a 2.5 term GPA. 
3. A student whose cumulative ratio of completed to attempted hours falls below 80% 
   will receive a warning and an academic progress alert. 
4. Students who are enrolled in 12+ attempted credit hours during their first semester (fall 
   or spring) will be academically suspended if they receive a GPA of 0 (including “I” 
   incomplete grades) for that semester.

New Item: 
Maher asked the committee if there is a university policy on student credit hours 
translating to student contact hours. Some courses use traditional lecture formats while 
others may have an online component, as in a hybrid course. 
Given pointed out that the regulation, PR 2.71 provides a good description of credit 
semester hours.

Business to be Carried over to December 1 meeting:

Morris will meet with Given and Flanagan as a working group to discuss FUSS policies 
on monitoring student progress, and report back to the ARP Committee in December. 

Morris has reviewed ECU policies on incomplete grades and will report to the committee 
in December.

The committee adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 1, 2014 at 4:00 PM in Rawl Annex 142.