

**ACADEMIC AND ADMISSION STANDARDS COMMITTEE,  
University Senate**

Minutes from Meeting on March 1, 2004

Members Present:

- Walter Ferrier, Chair
- Ruth Staten
- Michael Braun
- Tamara Brown
- Richard Jefferies

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**1. Admission, Retention, and Completion of University of Kentucky Educator Preparations Programs**

Reviewed minutes from Feb 2 meeting regarding course of action to revise proposal. Chair Ferrier indicated that he would contact the appropriate individuals from the College of Education for an update.

E-Mail Ferrier to Sandidge and Shapiro: MAR 2

Greetings Deans Sandidge and Shapiro:

Just a short note to follow up on our discussion at the Feb 2 meeting of the Admissions and Academic Standards Committee. I believe that we concluded the meeting with the idea that you were leaning toward revising the essential parts of your proposal and resubmitting to the AAS Committee for a vote. Is there anything I or the AAS Committee can do to further help you?  
W. Ferrier

**Action:** No action.

**2. Proposal to Require Midterm Grade Reporting for First and Second Year Students**

Reviewed minutes from Feb 2 meeting regarding course of action to revise proposal. Chair Ferrier indicated that he would contact Prof. Jane Jensen for an update.

E-Mail Ferrier to Jensen: MAR 2

Hello Jane:

Just a short note to follow up on our discussion at the Feb 2 meeting of the Admissions and Academic Standards Committee. I had hoped you would be willing to revise your proposal and let us work with you to move it along. Is there anything I or the AAS Committee can do to further help you? I would be more than happy to meet with you one-on-one to help.  
Wally

Reply E-Mail Jensen to Ferrier: MAR 3 (status of proposal underlined)

Wally,

I've talked with folks from the advising network, Don Witt, and Dr. Kraemer and we thought it best to heed the note of caution expressed by the Academic Standards Committee and table the proposal until we have more data to make our case.

To that end we are piloting the process of voluntary reporting of midterm grades with four courses that are high indicators of first year student success (or lack thereof). These are General Chem 105, Biology 150, Math 123, and English 101. The instructors in these classes have agreed to submit letter grades to the registrar's office and we'll see how the process works out for the registrar's office and academic support personnel.

What has become immediately clear is that the interpretation by faculty and instructional staff of what it means to *"inform the undergraduate students in their courses of their current progress based on the criteria in the syllabus"* varies widely. Rarely is it interpreted as providing a single, clear statement of the student's progress as an A, B, C, etc. would do. More often, faculty feel that if they simply provide the raw scores earned to date the students can then judge for themselves. Experience and the students tell us that this is not the case, especially in the first semester of college.

What process do we have to ask the senate to clarify what is meant by "inform of current progress"? Is the something that the individual colleges may define for themselves? If so, then a voluntary reporting of letter grades into the central system may provide an answer. In any case, we'll soon see whether this is at all feasible and if having those letter grades is useful to the advising staff and beneficial to the affected students.

Thanks again for giving me time to make our case.  
Jane

**Action:** No action.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **3. College of Medicine Graduation Requirement Changes**

Discussed proposed changes (see underlined) for College of Medicine graduation requirements:

Passing scores on both the Step 1 written examination (taken at the end of Year 2), and Step 2 written examination and clinical skills examination. Students have from the end of their third year through December 31 of their senior year to pass both parts of the Step 2 examinations. Students have three attempts to pass before dismissal, with appeals. Students are not required to take Step 2 examinations in any particular order.

**Action:** Committee voted in favor of supporting the proposed changes (unanimous).

### **4. Change in MS Nursing Requirements**

Discussed proposed changes (see underlined) progression requirements for the MSN degree:

- Minimum of 3.0 cumulative graduate GPA
- Minimum of a grade of 'B' or better on all graduate nursing courses (NUR) with a clinical component is required for progression to the next clinical course and for graduation
- Minimum of 3.0 GPA in all graduate nursing courses (NUR) required for graduation

**Action:** Committee voted in favor of supporting the proposed changes (unanimous).

## 5. Changes in College of Communications Masters and Doctoral Programs

Discussed proposed changes for the MA program:

- Change admission deadline from October 1 and February 1 to only February 1.
- Enrollment caps for both MA and Ph.D. programs determined each fall by the Program Committee

**Action:** Committee voted in favor of supporting the proposed changes (unanimous).

Discussed proposed changes (see underlined) for the Ph.D. program:

- Change admission deadline from October 1 and February 1 to only February 1.
- Add CJT 651 (Communication Theory) as required course.
- Specify required doctoral curriculum:
  - Fall, First year: CJT 651, CJT 667, STA 570
  - Spring, First year: CJT 631, CJT 645, CJT 665
  - Fall, Second year: CJT and an advanced statistic/methods course (from approved list)
  - Spring, Second year: CJT 790
- Entering students may request a waiver of specific required coursed if the submit evidence of equivalent coursework taken; Review Committee will make final decision regarding waivers
- Enrollment caps for both MA and Ph.D. programs determined each fall by the Program Committee

**Action:** Committee voted in favor of supporting the proposed changes (unanimous).

## 6. Changes in Masters of Accounting Program Requirements

Committee reviewed proposed changes to MSACC program and believed proposal was in good order. But, since proposal did not specifically include admissions- or academic standards-related issues, the Committee wondered if proposal falls within its purview.

**Action:** No specific recommendation made.

*Minutes drafted on 04 MAR 04 by Wally Ferrier.*