

Senate Rules and Elections Committee Information and Recommendation to Senate Council

Background. The Ombud requested the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) to interpret the meaning/intent of several rules relating to withdrawal, because situations had arisen that highlighted the need for the meaning/intent of these Senate Rules to be more clear.

Item 1. Information from SREC to Senate Council

Concerning SR 6.4.4.2.4, the SREC interpreted that the following addition to the sentence below is only a 'mechanical edit' and not a substantive change. The SREC interpreted that it is not the intent of general rule SR 6.4.4.2.4 to wholly override the specific provision of SR 5.1.8.5.1 for a particular situation in which *retroactive* withdrawal is permitted. The SREC directed that this edit be included in 'Spring 2020' revision to the Senate Rules. The SREC also directed that this edit be informationally brought to the attention of the Senate Council.

6.4.4.2.4 Right to Drop or Withdraw from a Course

A student who has committed an academic offense in a course shall not be permitted to drop or withdraw from the course under any circumstances, [except as specified in SR 5.1.8.5.1](#).

Item 2. SREC Recommendation to Senate Council for Senate Action

Concerning SR 5.1.8.5.1, the SREC interprets that the intent of the meaning of the paragraph below from SR 5.1.8.5.1 is made more clear by the two indicated edits. These edits will have the effect of making any course grade that was "a result" of academic penalty be subject to appeal only pursuant to the specific procedure in the paragraph below. The SREC considers that this interpretation is the intent of the paragraph below, but the SREC also considers that the edits impart a substantive change to the meaning of a literal reading of the current wording. Hence, the SREC directs that the edits below be presented to the Senate Council for substantive consideration for submission to the University Senate for approval.

A grade ~~of E or XE~~ assigned as a result of an academic offence may be changed to a W only by a petition to the University Appeals Board and only after a retroactive withdrawal for the semester in which the ~~E~~ [grade](#) was assigned is granted. In evaluating such a petition, the student must demonstrate that the hardships enumerated in item (4) below also resulted in the academic offense in a manner that the student's culpability is severely diminished as a result. [US: 4/10/2006]