

Academic Affairs Committee
Monday, April 19th, 3:45-5:15
Frost Academic Commons

Minutes

Present: Eric Hoffman, David Zehr, Dick Hage, Roxanna Wright, Whitney Howarth, Liz Ahl, Linda Levy, Scott Coykendall, Deb Tobine, Annette Holba, Sam Miller, Eric (student senate rep)
Excused: Amber Lewis, Barbara Lopez Mayhew, Gene Fahey

I. Approval of March 15th minutes (attachment)

- a. Due to PSU email being down, delayed approval until next meeting after everyone has had a chance to read them

II. Old Business

a. Transfer Policy Change (Zehr, attachment)

- David explained why the number of credits from 2 year institutions should be increased (courses from any other accredited institution should be acceptable)
- This would help students earn their degree in a timely manner.
- Questions
 - Could the wording eliminate the number of credits from specific types of institution and simply include that the student needs 30 credits taken at PSU to earn a degree?
 - What is the history behind the current wording?
- Motion amended as follows: A max of 90 credits from accredited institutions may be accepted toward a baccalaureate degree.

Approved 11-0-0-3

b. 6-week grade policy change – discussion, new motion (Zehr)

Early Evaluation (Proposed)

All students who have earned 47 or fewer credits (First Year through Second Year sophomore classification) are evaluated at the end of the first six weeks of classes during the fall and spring semesters. Instructors of full-semester courses submit grades on students' performance. Students are urged to discuss these grades with their advisors and instructors. All first-semester, first-year students (those who have attempted fewer than 12 credits), after consultation with the advisor and instructor(s), may drop full-semester course(s) within two weeks after the notice of the early evaluation.

- The revised motion was read and discussed. The difference between this motion and the original motion is that the new motion will require 6 week grades for any student with fewer than 47 credits.
- Discussion – will the motion pass?, will the faculty agree to it?, we as AAC members should support the motion at the faculty meeting.

Approved 11-0-0-3

- c. Advising subcommittee (?) - no update (will bring an update to the May meeting)

III. New Business

- a. Minors and Minor GPAs – (Tobine, see attachment)
 - Right now minor averages are calculated differently in the Undergrad Studies office and the Undergrad Advising office
 - Undergrad Studies adds in all classes that could possibly be part of the minor
 - Undergrad Advising adds in only the best grades from the classes that could be part of the minor
 - Questions/comments
 - Should the major and minor calculations be the done the same way consistently?
 - Is this a Curriculum Committee issue or an AAC issue? Because it is a GPA issue, it is an AAC issue.
 - How does this affect interdisciplinary minors that include multiple choices from multiple disciplines?
 - Should the consistency come from what the student needs to fulfill the major or the minor, with the rest counted toward electives?
 - Should the calculation come from the 1st 20 credits (or whatever the total number of credits required in the minor) or should the calculation come from the best grades of all the courses taken when choice is an option?
 - The degree requirement says what the MINIMUM number of credits required to complete the degree
 - Motion: Calculation of GPA for minors should be the same as it is for majors.
Approved 11-0-0-4 (Annette had to leave before vote)
- b. Students choosing 2 minors - Deb
 - For students who pursue more than 1 minor, should there be a change in the minor form to indicate that the student is choosing 2 minors? The order may help the student complete 2 minors without having to take more than the min. number of credits that differentiate them.
 - **Resolution** – the Registrar’s office will work it out with the student
- c. Steering Committee – Eric
 - How are chairs elected on committees? Can outgoing members vote? Can incoming members vote?
 - **Resolution** – allow each committee to determine how chairs are elected

IV. Other

Announcement – Scott

Scott's Technical Communication class has been discussing the fair grading policy – they are presenting on Thursday, May 6th at 9:30 and at 11:00. AAC members are invited to attend. He will email committee members.

Reminder: This academic year's schedule of meetings:

SPRING 2010

Monday, May 17th, 3:45-5:15 (Frost)

JUNE 2010

June 3rd – Probation Contracts – 9:00 AM - Langdon 145

June 16th – Severance Appeals – 9:00 AM – Langdon 145

Please bring a laptop computer if you are able.