

Minutes  
Senate Scholastic Standards Committee  
September 7, 2005  
*(Approved 10/13/05)*

In Attendance: Moiseff, DeWolf, Goldman, Gramling, Kettle, McGavran, Myers, Ratcliff, Sidney, von Munkwitz-Smith

1. Each senate standing committee is directed to appoint one member to serve on Growth & Development. The chair anxiously awaits a volunteer!

2. GEOC is sponsoring Prof. Don McCabe (Rutgers), founder of the Center for Academic Integrity, to speak about “Promoting Academic Integrity” on Wednesday September 28, 2pm-3pm, in the Konover Auditorium as part of General Education Month. This fits in well with our intent to continue discussion of the Plagiarism Task Force Report. Moiseff and Goodstein are coordinating his visit. We will arrange a time for interested members of SSSC to meet with McCabe, as a group, to discuss our work on the plagiarism issue. It is our intent to exploit his visit to raise interest and awareness of the task force report. We will work to organize a forum to discuss the task force’s recommendations sometime in October. Our goal is to bring the work of the task force to closure during this academic year.

3. Last year we worked with PAAC and Student Welfare to address the problem faced by students seeking excused absences for justifiable extra- or co-curricular activities. Although we arrived at a suitable definition of approved activities we felt that faculty should be encouraged, but not required, to accommodate students’ absences. We suggested that a letter from the Provost requesting faculty cooperation was a more suitable way to address this issue than a revision of the by-laws. The committee was informed that PAAC was going to follow up with the Provost.

4. The committee discussed a proposed policy to allow students to receive an automatic waiver of the residency requirement that will allow them to transfer up to 7 credits from another institution and count them towards their final 30 credits. The existing practice is to accept up to 6 transfer credits, and to require additional approvals for any additional credits. We concluded that this new policy remained consistent with the intent of the relevant by-law and that no further action was required. This was communicated to Vice Provost Makowsky.

5. We introduced several items/issues to be considered by Scholastic Standards this year. These included:

- Completing our work with the plagiarism task force report
- Allowing instructors to require that students attend class
- Allowing instructors to remove an audit ‘grade’ in cases of non-attendance
- Reviewing requirement that classes meet during scheduled final exam time
- Determine the status of discussions about oversight of Intersession classes (especially the “minimum length” proposal to the Senate in March of 2004)

- Oversight of INTD programs and courses
- Whether instructors should be allowed to change meeting times after classes are enrolled
- Should class schedules be forced to comply with standardized meeting times
- Whether the number of class meetings each semester at the branch campuses has decreased
- Reevaluation of the repeat rule, especially in light of space availability in classes

6. Future meetings will be scheduled approximately once every three weeks. The meeting times will be rotated in an attempt to allow all members an opportunity to attend at least some meetings. A tentative schedule will be emailed to all members.