

Academic Standards Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2011

In Attendance: Dr. Ron Smith , Suzy Callanan, Dr. Thomas Wayne , Cindy Enslin, Dr. Christy Gilfert, Ann Eastman, Kathie Morris, Sara Dustin, Dr. Rosalind Jester, Dr. Robert Beeson:, Dr. Peggy Romeo, Maria Cahill, David Luther

Minutes

1. The committee was informed that the “Emergency Folder “ (that was discussed at the last meeting) is at the printers and will be distributed after Spring Break.
2. The committee was informed that the B.I.T. team was still active, but it will be reformed under a different name.
3. The committee was asked to discuss the possibility of realigning grades to include WP and WF as we had in past years.
4. Professor Cahill asked (mostly with regard to our two student services members –Kathie Morris and Dr. Gilfert) if adding other grade options would make things easier.
5. Dr. Beeson commented that the D, W, F format that we now have would just be expanded to include D, WP, WF, and F. The faculty would be rated the same.
6. Professor Eastman stated that the cut-off time for evaluating a student’s attendance is short and some students are missed. (This was in reference to a comment that WP would allow a professor to withdraw a student that never attended).
7. Director Morris said financial aid re[porting procedures required the quick notification.
8. Dr. Beeson said that professors should not be penalized for students who register but who do not show up. Administrators are attuned to that.
9. Director Morris said that first week attendance in online classes is hard to document.
10. Dr. Beeson said that there is grade forgiveness for W or F so that the students are not as penalized for not withdrawing and receiving an F. This is compared to years ago when grade forgiveness was not as well recognized.
11. Dr. Beeson said that +/- added to A, B, C and D would cause many problems.
12. Professor Eastman asked if different types of W might help the registrar in keeping track of students.
13. Professor Cahill said that she likes to know the reasons why a student might withdraw.
14. Director Morris said that if a student withdraws from a single class there is no report, but if the student withdraws from all classes there is a report.
15. Director Morris said that there is some confusion among the students. They think that a professor will withdraw them from a class when they stop attending and they are surprised when they receive an F.
16. Dr. Beeson said that whether a student has a W or an F has no effect on the administrative rating of the faculty member.

17. Dr. Gilfert : Students not attending a class causes a problem. Students are constantly asking for waivers so that they do not need to pay. In the hurry to start the semester, professors often say that everyone has attended so that they do not cause a student who shows up later not to be dropped. This is especially true of online classes.
18. Dr. Gilfert likes the idea of a withdraw-non attendance so that the registrar knows who to grant a waiver to and who not to grant a waiver to.
19. Professor Eastman asks what can be done.
20. Dr. Gilfert says that there may need to be additional documentation from the faculty needed to help out the Registrar.
21. General consensus was that the addition of WP and WF was not needed for the grading system and that the College should try to work up a procedure for those who never attend and not withdraw.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.