



# Academic Standards Committee

## Minutes

November 7th 2014

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Rooms : Lee (I -122), Collier (G-109), Charlotte (J -118)

<b>Facilitator</b>	Tejendrasinh Vala, Chair
<b>Subject</b>	Possible Tasks for Academic Standards Committee Fall 2014/Spring 2015
<b>Attendees</b>	Teju Vala; Peggy Romeo; Eileen DeLuca; Thomas Mohundro; Natala Orobello; William VanGlabek; Marius Coman; Jacquelyn Davis; Karen Maguire; Qin Liu; Kathleen Lanigan; Garnett Salmon; Regina Miller
<b>Excused</b>	Don Warren
<b>Guests</b>	Dr. Meyer; Dr. Rath; Dr. Elsberry and Dr. Wells
<b>Absent</b>	Cindy Campbell; Christy Gilfert;

### Highlights

Meeting began with welcoming following guests who joined our meeting.

Dr. Elsberry and Dr. Wells from School of Health Professions as well as Dr. Meyer and Dr. Rath from School of Business and Technology.

Dr. Vala began the conversation by asking Dr. Meyer how they utilize AS degree courses to meet AA requirements.

Dr. Meyer and Dr. Rath were pleased to mention that currently none of their courses in School of Business and Technology are designated as “AS only”. Dr. Meyer mentioned that since 2007, the State has been talking about course designations. He said there are several factors that can play a role in course designation and, among those, faculty qualification plays a major role. Based upon the fact that all the teaching faculty in their department possess a Master’s or higher degree, they were successfully able to remove ‘AS only’ designation from all their courses. He mentioned that the State is moving towards a non-health science degree which would require close to 60 semester hours of college credit.



All the AAS (terminal workforce) degrees are on the verge of elimination. State wide hardly five AAS degrees currently exist.

Dr. Elsberry presented a document to the committee members which contained a section of Florida Legislature statue **2014 F.S. Title XLVIII:1007.25**,. He also provided a comparison of a FSW catalog policy, which mandates which courses can satisfy AA elective, with similar policies from Valencia College, Daytona State, Broward College and Hillsborough Community College. According to the documents he provided, it certainly confirms what Dr. Meyer had previously explained and it became apparent that the state is moving in a trend in which the majority of coursework will count toward the AA degree or Baccalaureate degree.

Prof. Romeo and Mr. Salmon asked the guests if there are any other criteria, other than faculty credentials to consider before removing the “AS only” designation from our courses. Dr. Meyer said, there may be others factors but faculty qualification is one of the major among them.

The committee discussed the academic rigor of AS courses and whether or not former “workforce” courses are appropriate AA electives. Dr. Meyer and Dr. Elsberry shared that AS courses have been revised since the AS designation was originally applied. These courses have increased in academic rigor, and have assignments and assessments that align with one or more of the General Education competencies.

Dr. DeLuca added that if this is the case, then it is up to various departments to come up with a list of courses and then propose the change of designation to the college’s Curriculum Committee.

Dr. Elsberry said, most of Health profession programs should have no problem to satisfy faculty qualification criteria. Dr. Wells also confirmed that, and added almost all their Nursing faculty, including clinical instructors, are Master’s level or above. The committee will wait for further comments from Dr. Collins.

Mr. Salmon suggested we need to be very careful with the timelines when documenting such course designation changes.