

MINUTES
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs
September 18, 2007, 3:30 p.m.
K-State Union, Room 204

Present: Carroll, Charney, Holcombe, Hubler, King, LeHew, Martin, Montelone, Pacey, Ramaswamy, Weninger

Absent: Chengappa, Staggenborg

Visitors: Monty Nielsen

1. Doris Carroll, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.
2. The September 4, 2007 minutes were approved as submitted.
3. Announcements
4. Course and Curriculum Changes
 - A. Undergraduate Education - none
 - B. Graduate Education – A motion was made by LeHew and seconded by King to approve the following course and curriculum changes approved by the Graduate Council on September 4, 2007. Motion was withdrawn.

Changes (College of Human Ecology)

~~HN 701 Sensory Analysis~~

New

~~HN 726 Nutrition and Wellness~~

~~HN 838 Advanced Clinical Dietetics~~

~~HN 840 Advanced Nutrition: Nutrigenomics, Nutrigenetics, and Advanced Lipid Metabolism~~

~~HN 859 Nutrition: A Focus on Life Stages~~

~~HN 862 Maternal and Child Nutrition~~

~~HN 875 Pediatric Clinical Nutrition~~

New (College of Human Ecology/College of Veterinary Medicine)

CS 769 Advanced Feedlot Production Management

CS 770 Advanced Cow-Calf Production Management

Montelone expressed concern regarding Human Ecology courses that were forwarded from Graduate Council. She argued there was insufficient information regarding the proposed Human Nutrition course changes. Additionally, she noted there were numerous typographical errors in the material that was forwarded to this committee from Graduate Council.

After additional discussion, Hubler moved to approve the clinical sciences courses as approved by the Graduate Council on September 4th, 2007. Seconded by Martin. Motion carried. Montelone moved to table action on the HN courses until a future meeting. Seconded by Weninger. Motion carried.

5. Committee Reports
 - A. University Library Committee – Mohan Ramaswamy
The ULC met September 5th. More than half of the members are new. Dean Goetsch shared with committee members the Library's strategic planning and budget issues. Their next meeting will be to discuss their action plan for this year.
 - B. Committee on Academic Policy and Procedures (CAPP) – Doris Carroll
Besides the items listed below, language on the Final Exam Policy that was sent back to them by Faculty Senate is being discussed.

C. Student Senate – Tim Weninger

Student Senate is working on many items. SGA continues to examine proposed change in the Email policy. An alcohol policy that would mandate reporting to parents is under review. Weninger reported on the “Good Neighbors” initiative which encourages good relationships within students’ neighborhoods. Weninger will be visiting with OME (Office of Mediated Education) regarding a computer course scheduling program. You can visit www.coursescheduler.com for more information on this program. SGA is discussing whether to revise the dead week policy. SGA President Matt Wagner has created a task force to examine dead week policy. Committee members suggested that a faculty member be added to this task force on dead week.

D. Course and Curriculum ad hoc committee – Candace Becker
No report.

E. General Education Task Force – Melody LeHew

The Phase I report has not been made available yet. LeHew will report to us on this committee’s work. Their mission this semester basically is to create a proposal. They have separated into three smaller subcommittees which will be meeting almost every week. It was suggested that the chair or at least a couple members of the task force schedule a visit with the current UGE Council in the near future.

6. Old Business

7. New Business

A. Academic Fresh Start and Academic Forgiveness Policy –Alison Wheatley **Attachment 1**

Wheatley thanked the committee for their time and introduced the proposal as found in Attachment 2. Several questions were answered regarding the rationale behind this proposal. After a lengthy discussion, Pacey moved and Ramaswamy seconded to approve the proposal, Charney made a friendly amendment to add “Graduate School requirements and” to Section III, C., motion was seconded. Motion carried.

B. Plagiarism definition

A motion was made by Montelone and seconded by King to approve the revised definition. Charney expressed numerous concerns regarding this new wording. Discussion ensued regarding this definition and the appropriateness of the language. The committee felt this definition was not adequate and they needed additional input being it could be forwarded on to Faculty Senate for approval. Montelone withdrew her original motion and the second, King agreed.

Pacey moved to send the Plagiarism definition back to CAPP with the suggestion that they (a) consult with the Honor & Integrity System and (b) utilize neutral and factual language. Seconded by Weninger. Motion carried.

C. CAPP (Committee on Academic Policy & Procedure) Alternate – Carroll requested a volunteer from Academic Affairs members to be an alternate for this committee in the event she is not able to attend. Pacey agreed to be her alternate. Carroll thanked him for his willingness to serve CAPP.

8. For the good of the University

9. Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Submitted by:
Candace Becker

Attachment 1
ACADEMIC FRESH START GPA POLICY and
ACADEMIC FORGIVENESS GPA POLICY
Approved by CAPP 9-12-07

The **Academic Fresh Start** and *Academic Forgiveness* Policies enable an undergraduate student to neutralize, in part, the grade impact of prior academic performance. **Academic Fresh Start** and *Academic Forgiveness* provide for the computation of an alternative GPA and for the use of that GPA in most academic situations. A student may apply only once, and to only one or the other, and the process cannot be reversed. A student may not apply for either policy until he or she has been reinstated into his or her college.

I. Conditions for a readmitted student to be eligible to apply for **Academic Fresh Start are:**

- A) The student was not enrolled in a K-State course for three (3) calendar years prior to readmission.
- B) After readmission, the student earned a K-State GPA of 2.2¹ or higher at the end of the academic session in which the twelfth credit was earned.
- C) Up to 60 consecutive hours² of course work and K-State GPA may be restricted from the regular GPA calculation. The beginning point for the **Academic Fresh Start** GPA shall be the first, second, third, fourth, or fifth³ academic semester of enrollment following the student's initial K-State date of entry. The choice of the starting point is designated by the student at the time of application for **Academic Fresh Start** and hours excluded from the calculation must be consecutive.

II. Conditions for a student to be eligible to apply for *Academic Forgiveness* are:

- A) The student experienced one or more extenuating circumstances which caused a drastic change to the student's academic performance in one or two semesters.
- B) After the session(s) affected by the extenuating circumstance, the student earned a K-State GPA of 2.2 or higher at the end of the academic session in which the twelfth credit was earned.
- C) Grades from up to two (2) consecutive semesters may be excluded from the regular cumulative GPA calculation.⁴
- D) The student's dean or designee may request documentation confirming the extenuating circumstances with the application for *Academic Forgiveness*.

¹ Rationale: This is the GPA standard to which all students are held in the Academic Dismissal Policy.

² Rationale: This change will accommodate students who do not take traditional full-time semesters.

³ Rationale: This change will accommodate students who do not take traditional full-time semesters.

⁴ Rationale: It is assumed that the negative impact of the extenuating circumstance(s) will be diminished within two semesters.

III. The calculation and reporting of **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* GPA and their uses in academic evaluation are:

- A) **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* deletes nothing from the student's academic record. Grades earned before the **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* will remain on the transcript along with the cumulative GPA for all hours taken.
- B) The transcript will clearly indicate the starting point of the **Academic Fresh Start/Academic Forgiveness** as well as the **Academic Fresh Start/Academic Forgiveness** GPA.
- C) University-wide academic policies based on a cumulative GPA generally will use the **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* GPA. However, academic programs are not required to use **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* GPAs. Some programs, such as Graduate School requirements and those leading to teacher licensure, may use all grades for the calculation of the GPA.
- D) In order for students in the **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* program to be eligible for university academic honors, they must complete a minimum of 60 hours in residence, with at least 50 hours in graded courses after the **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* begins. Other academic policies will not be affected.

IV. Procedures for applying for **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* are:

- A) A student applies for **Academic Fresh Start** GPA or *Academic Forgiveness* GPA through the deans or their designees of the college in which the student is enrolled.
- B) A student must apply no later than the academic term prior to the one when the degree will be granted. (Students wishing to apply are encouraged to do so as soon as possible after qualifying).
- C) When applying, the student must indicate the point at which he or she wishes the **Academic Fresh Start** or *Academic Forgiveness* GPA to begin.
 - 1. For readmitted students applying for **Academic Fresh Start**, the choices are: the end of the first, second, third, fourth or fifth semester, following the student's initial K-State date of entry.
 - 2. For students who experienced extenuating circumstances and are applying for *Academic Forgiveness*, the semester(s) will be selected in consultation with the deans or their designees.

**Expanded Rationale Statements for Recommended Changes to Academic Fresh Start Policy
(Now includes the additional Academic Forgiveness Policy)**

1. Although the numbers are small, since the Academic Fresh Start policy was initiated it has helped students with retention and persistence to graduation. There have been 140 students granted this option between 1997 and 2006, and the vast majority of these students who have benefited from Academic Fresh Start have graduated.
2. The addition of the Academic Forgiveness policy will minimize academic penalties to students who are subject to extenuating circumstances beyond their control, which have caused drastic changes to their academic performance for one or two consecutive semesters.
3. The resulting action of the Academic Fresh Start and Academic Forgiveness policies does not change grades or the cumulative GPA. The effect of these policies is to provide a second GPA (Academic Fresh Start GPA or Academic Forgiveness GPA) that excludes the effect of a student's atypical performance caused by situations considered by these two policies. This second GPA is therefore a truer expression of a student's academic abilities and performance.
4. The Academic Fresh Start GPA and the Academic Forgiveness GPA would remove the undesirable stigma of a GPA below a student's abilities, and may allow under specified conditions the consideration of the student for university academic honors, scholarships, and professional programs. Some GPA requirements would not be affected, such as graduate school requirements and those leading to teacher licensure.
5. Having a written policy in place will create a consistent guideline to be used across colleges. Students and advisors will be aware that Academic Forgiveness is an option for students for whom extenuating circumstances caused drastic changes to their academic performance.
6. In order to be in line with the current Academic Dismissal Policy (12 hours with 2.2 semester GPA for immediate reinstatement), the proposed semester GPA required to apply for either of the Academic Fresh Start and Academic Forgiveness policies is a 2.2 (whereas the present Academic Fresh Start policy requires a 2.5 GPA).
7. A student may apply only once, and to only one or the other policy, and the process cannot be reversed.
8. Deans or their designees will still have the discretion to approve or not approve an application for Academic Fresh Start or Academic Forgiveness.