

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS AND STANDARDS

September 9, 2014

**PRESENT:** LaRonda Brewer, Scott Burke, Allison Calhoun-Brown, Jordan Cook, Sarah Cook, David Garcia, Gerald Gay, Brad Horton, Colleen Joyce, Paul Katz, Grace Martin, John Medlock, Joe Perry, Chester Phillips, Tim Renick, Shari Schwartz, David Stinson, Rebecca Stout, Brian Thoms, Winnie Tsang-Kosma, Barbara Warner, Sara Weigle, Alan Ziobrowski

### **Minutes of the April 24, 2014 Meeting**

The minutes of the April 24, 2014 meeting were approved as distributed

### **Honors College Admissions Standards**

The motion regarding Honors College admission standards was approved as amended. Sarah Cook presented the motion which will limit the number of credit hours that students enter the Honors College to below 60 credit hours. Most students who apply to the Honors College have way less than 60 hours.

### **Transfer Credit for Transient Students**

The motion on transfer credit for transient students was approved with the condition for further review of the issue concerning the requirement “a student may not take courses for degree credit at another institution during the semester he or she expects to graduate from Georgia State”. The main change of this policy is that degree seeking undergraduate students who wish to take courses elsewhere as transient students and apply those credit toward their Georgia State degree, are required to get written authorization in advance from the University Advisement Center or the College of Academic Assistance. Current policy does not require prior approval and students take courses that are not eligible to transfer back to Georgia State.

### **Transfer Credit Policy for Military Credit**

The motion regarding the transfer credit policy for military credit was approved. Section 1320.10 of the Undergraduate Catalog will be amended with the addition of a statement on Joint Services Transcripts: *Joint Services Transcript (JST) credits earned while serving in the Armed Services may also be evaluated for transfer credit on a case by case basis by the student's academic advisor in conjunction with the academic department offering the course.*

### **Withdrawal for Military Service: Refunds and Grades**

The motion on withdrawal for military service was approved and applies to both the graduate and undergraduate catalogs. The Subcommittee on Graduate Issue will also review and make a motion for the Graduate Catalog.

Averil Smith presented the motion on withdrawal for military service and the refunds and grading policies related to having to withdraw due to military orders. These students are entitled to a 100% refund of tuition and fees and proration of elected fees (housing & meal plans). The

policy is intended for students who receive military orders unexpectedly and the orders prevent the students from completing the semester. An appeals process was also added to the policy.

### **Priority Registration**

The motion revising the policy on priority registration for students who are eligible to register was approved. Students are given a registration time-ticket assignment approximately two weeks before registration begin. The motion brings policy in line with current practice.

**Time-tickets are assigned with priority to students scheduled to graduate during the upcoming term, honors students, and approved student groups with documented limitations on their ability to register. Other continuing students are assigned tickets according to the total credit hours earned.**

Groups seeking priority registration need to provide a rationale for why they have limitations on their ability to register, and these requests must be approved by Admissions & Standards.

### **Priority Registration for G.I. Bill recipients**

The motion to provide priority registration to Georgia State University military veterans who are receiving VA education benefits was approved. The priority registration for G.I. Bill recipients will be moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of registration. Priority registration for these students would allow them to register for their required courses early, thus allowing them to maximize the use of their limited educational benefits.

### **Future of CTW (Peter Lyons)**

Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness, Peter Lyons reported on the future of Critical Thinking through Writing at Georgia State University. CTW requires students to pass two critical thinking through writing courses in their major. It is an example of a policy created with the best intentions that creates unintended consequences. For some students, CTW creates a structural impediment to their graduation. There are two issues. One is what do we do in the short term for those students who transfer in who have completed the equivalent of a CTW course elsewhere. Current policy does not allow and student have to repeat courses. The second issue is looking at CTW in the long term and decide how we continue it. There may be other policies that are needing review, such as repeat to replace, that may impeded students path toward graduation, increase the number of courses taken, and incur additional costs by students. Peter Lyons and Tim Renick will begin looking at data and bring the information to Admissions and Standards to discuss if in practice, policy are having the positive impacts envisioned.

### **Petitions & Appeals Reports**

The Academic Administrators responsible for the academic-related student appeals presented their 2013-2014 annual petitions report to the committee. Scott Burke presented Admissions Appeals, Special Talents, and Admissions Discipline appeals report. Allison Calhoun-Brown presented the Academic Regulation and Graduation Requirement Appeals. Carol Cohen presented the Course Load, Scholastic Discipline, Core, and Regents Test Appeals and Shari Schwartz, reported on the Add, Drop, Withdraw appeals.

**Updates: City & Global Scholars, Academic Honesty Policy implementation**  
Tabled

Meeting adjourned.

**Recorded by:**  
Wanda F. Taylor  
Office of the Vice Provost