

## **Academic Standing Committee**

### **Annual Report 2014-2015**

The Academic Standing Committee (ASC) is charged with implementing Academic Regulation #22 (AR 22) and hearing students who are seeking reinstatement to the University by exception to AR 22.

Over the course of the 2014-15 academic year, 568 undergraduates were suspended from the University for academic reasons, in accordance with AR 22. This compares to 573 undergraduates suspended in the 2013-2014 academic year, and 533 undergraduates suspended in the 2012-2013 academic year. Fifty-seven students were suspended at the end of Summer Term 2014; 187 students were suspended at the end of Fall Term 2014; 99 students were suspended at the end of Winter Term 2015; and 225 students were suspended at the end of Spring Term 2015.

#### **Reinstatement by Exception**

The Registrar's Office schedules 40-minute meetings for students requesting reinstatement by exception and who have submitted all of the required paperwork.

The ASC met with 62 students for interviews as part of their requests for reinstatement by exception (compared to 44 interviews during 2013-2014 and 57 interviews during 2012-2013). Of these students, 39 were reinstated to the University and 23 were denied reinstatement. It should be noted that not all requests for exception in 2014-2015 were those students who were suspended in that year. For example, each term the committee may see students wishing to seek exception that were suspended in prior years. During 2014-2015, one decision of the ASC was appealed to the Provost's Office (compared to two during 2013-2014).

#### **Total Reinstatements**

A total of 202 students were reinstated to the University during 2014-2015. The breakdown for these reinstatements is as follows:

Approved Reinstatement by Exception by the ASC petitions: 39

Reinstatement by Appeal of ASC decision: 1

Reinstatement based on 2-Year absence: 93

Reinstatement based on successfully completing 24 transferable academic credits at a community college: 66

Reinstatement by senior exception: 3

Based on meeting scheduling issues faced by the ASC in past years, committee meetings were scheduled for the entire year and notices of meetings sent out to college advisors and other student support units. The meeting schedule and processes are also posted on the Faculty Senate web site (under ASC) and on the Registrars' web site. In addition, notices regarding student athletes on academic warning and probation are sent each term to the Academics for Student Athletes Office and appropriate advising offices. Deadlines were also determined for when students must submit their paperwork to the Registrars' Office to meet with the ASC (usually 12:00 PM the day prior to the meeting, or until spots fill). The ASC will see all students who meet the deadline for this paperwork; there is also an overflow day in case there are too many students and not enough spots. This process

assures students who have completed the paperwork by the appropriate deadline for the meeting will meet with the committee in a timely manner.

## **Committee Activities**

One of our observations this year was the increase of students who came before the committee whose suspension was related to not having access to the **late withdraw** process via Academic Requirements Committee. The reasons behind this varied, but often was due to a professor who was not available to sign the petition form (e.g., summer term absences, a short turnaround time between winter-spring terms, or a distance student who was not able to reach faculty via email).

Our two committee chairs (ASC and ARC) met on this topic and agreed that we are open to the development of a pilot process giving a student access to the late withdraw petition when it is clear that this would have prevented academic suspension. It is our hope this year that our two committees, along with the Registrar's Office's input, can continue to solidify this process and then distribute the information to the larger advising community. Advisors will play a key role in documenting or indicating that this might be a sound option for a student, so outreach to them will be essential.

We were hoping to have additional student data after this year to include: types of students who are suspended (e.g., came in as a transfer, distance education, and a summary of the issue(s) creating academic difficulties [medical, mental health etc...]). Additionally we would like to know student status after one, and possibly two terms post-reinstatement. We developed a form and format for this during the 2014-15 year and will continue to perfect the use of this tool during suspension meetings. Due to the swift timing of most of our meetings with students, we will likely consider delegating a committee member per meeting to this task, while the co-chair facilitates the other logistics of each student meeting (can be cumbersome to do both).

The ASC also meets with new academic advisors during the trainings facilitated by Jeff Malone. We clarify AR 22, exception processes, and what advisors can expect if working with a student who meets the criteria to submit a petition to our committee. Our hope is to continue outreach to new advisors on campus to train/assist in their understanding of criteria and appropriate referrals to the ASC.

## **Goals**

Our main goal for next year is to continue to work through the late withdraw process as related to academic suspension (see above), and consistent data input for further tracking at the end of each term and academic year.

We have lost a few members due to terms expiring or moves. We would like to add 2-3 members to the committee. Vickie will assist us with this process via the Faculty Senate Committee Interest Form, etc.

The Academic Standing Committee would like to thank Tom Watts, Shannon Harwood, Sarah Whiteside, and Nancy Laurence of the Registrar's Office, for their invaluable assistance with the work of the ASC. We would also like to thank the following committee members for their outstanding commitment to the ASC: Claire Colvin, Dan Schwab, Martha Smith, Nova Schauss, and Thomas Chastain.

## **ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE**

Melanie Jones, Co-chair '17	Agricultural Education
Marleigh Perez, Co-chair '15	College of Engineering
Martha Smith (v. Hanson) '15	Disability Access Services
Tom Chastain '16	Crop and Soil Science
Claire Colvin '16	College of Science Administration
Amy Davila-Klautzsch (v. Li) '16	Educational Opportunities Program
Pat Ketcham '16	Student Health Services
Nova Schauss '17	College of Engineering
Dan Schwab '17	College of Business

Student Members - TBA

- TBA

*Ex-Officio:* Registrar – Tom Watts (Fall 2014)

Shannon Harwood (Winter 2015)

Nancy Laurence (Spring 2015)

George Olden (Summer 2015)

Executive Committee Liaison – Nell O'Malley

*Submitted by: Marleigh Perez and Melanie Jones 2014-15, Academic Standing Committee Co-Chair's*