

Academic Standing Committee

Annual Report 2016-2017

Membership

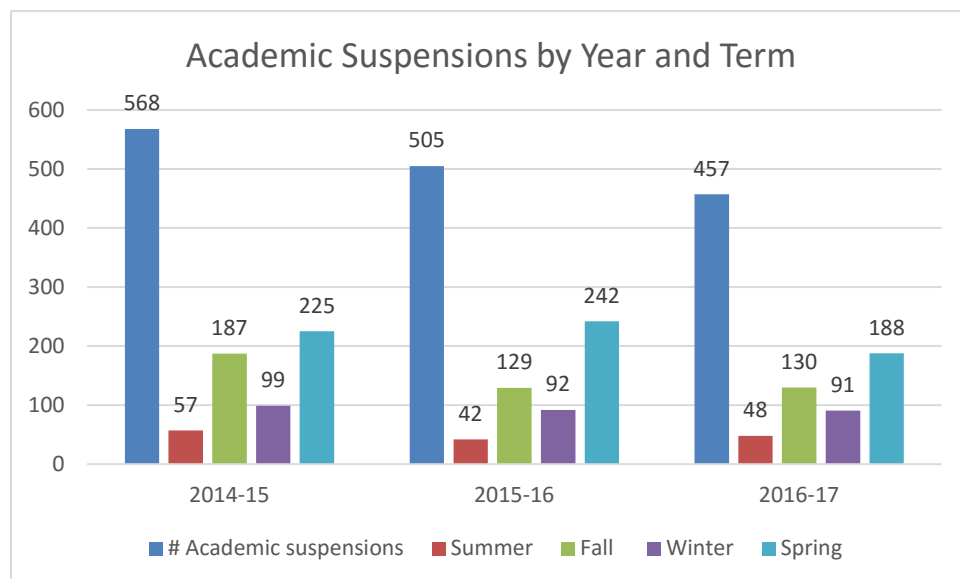
Heidi Wegis, Co-chair, '18	School of Biological & Population Health Sciences
Martha Smith, Co-chair, '19	Disability Access Services
Michael Burand (v. Jones) '17	Chemistry
Dan Schwab '17	College of Business
Nathan Walters (v. Schauss) '17	School of Psychological Science
Courtney Garcia '18	Educational Opportunities Program
Amy Riley '18	Extended Campus
Leslie Schact-Drey '19	Fraternity & Sorority Life
Jeff Walker '19	Chemistry (<i>resigned mid-year</i>)

Ex-Officio Members: Registrar's Office –Shannon Harwood, Jennifer Kitterman, Rebecca Mathern, Michelle McAllister

Executive Committee Liaison – Kate Halischak

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 2016-17 academic year, 457 undergraduates were suspended from the University for academic reasons, in accordance with AR 22. This compares to 505 undergraduates suspended in the 2015-2016 academic year, and 568 undergraduates suspended in the 2014-2015 academic year. 48 students were suspended at the end of Summer term 2016; 130 students were suspended at the end of Fall term 2016; 91 students were suspended at the end of Winter term 2017; and 188 students were suspended at the end of Spring term 2017.

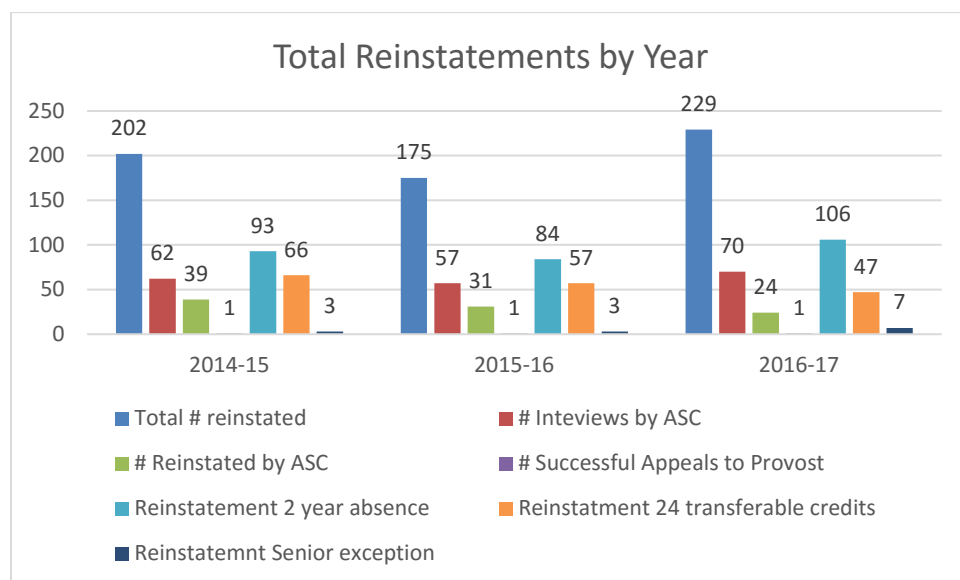


Reinstatement by Exception

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 70 students for interviews as part of their requests for reinstatement by exception. Of these students, 24 were reinstated to the University. It should be noted that not all requests for exception in 2016-2017 were those students who were suspended in that year. For example, each term the committee may see students wishing to seek exception who were suspended in prior years. During 2016-2017, one decision of denial for reinstatement made by the ASC was appealed to the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies Office. The Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies office reinstated this one student based on the appeal to her.

Total Reinstatements



A total of 229 students were reinstated to the University during 2016-2017. The breakdown for these reinstatements is as follows:

Approved Reinstatement by Exception by the ASC petitions: 24

Reinstatement by Appeal of ASC decision: 1

Reinstatement based on 2-Year absence: 106

Reinstatement based on successfully completing 24 transferable academic credits at a community college: 47

Reinstatement by senior exception: 7

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 over flow 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. The ASC is able to schedule emergency meetings if needed.

Committee Activities

As a follow-up to our work last year on the issue of some students who came before the committee whose suspension was related to not having access to the late withdraw process via the Academic Requirements Committee (ARC).

The two committee chairs (ASC and ARC) and a representative from the Registrar's Office met over the course of the year on this topic. During the discussions it was clear that, in most cases, the Registrar's Office would probably be the first to identify students who fell into this category. By reviewing the access other academically suspended students have to various offices and procedures across the campus, the ARC, ASC and Registrar's Office were able to determine that academically suspended students would have access to the ARC. These students must meet the petition requirements for the ARC and, also, if by petitioning the ARC and getting a late change status completed, the student would not be placed on academic suspension.

The ASC made several updates to its standing rules, guidelines and committee membership. These changes included clarifying processes, providing clarity to confusing guidelines, increasing the number of committee members and the addition of a Disability Access Services ex-officio non-voting member. All the changes were approved by the Faculty Senate in June 2017.

Using a form that was developed during the 2014-15 year the ASC has been collecting additional student data over the past year. This includes: 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.). The ASC and the Registrar's Office met with Chrysanthemum Hayes from the Division of Undergraduate Studies regarding how the ASC might be able to use this information with regard to the universities' focus on retention. Conversations will continue. The ASC will hold onto the data and continue to collect and work with the Registrar's Office on the best way to save, store, collate and review the data.

The ASC also meets with new academic advisors during the trainings facilitated by Jeff Malone, Division of Undergraduate Studies. The ASC clarifies 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. The hope is to continue outreach to new advisors on campus to train/assist in their understanding of criteria and appropriate referrals to the ASC.

The Academic Standing Committee would like to thank Ex-Officios from the Registrar's Office: Michelle McAllister, Jennifer Kitterman, Shannon Harwood and Rebecca Mathern, for their invaluable assistance with the work of the ASC. The Committee would also like to thank the following committee members for their outstanding commitment to the ASC: Michael Burand, Dan Schwab, Nathan Walters, Courtney Garcia, Amy Riley, and Leslie Schact-Drey (and an additional member who contributed but left prior to the end of the year, Jeff Walker). Additionally, thanks to the Executive Committee liaison, Kate Halischak, for her assistance with supporting the committee as it proposed changes that needed to be supported by the Faculty Senate.

Submitted by: Martha Smith and Heidi Wegis 2016-17, Academic Standing Committee Co-Chair's