

# FACULTY SENATE

October 25, 2012

## FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION TO MODIFY ACADEMIC POLICIES ON COURSE REPETITION AND ACADEMIC SEPARATION

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate Committee on Undergraduate Education (FSCUEs), Subcommittee on Academic Standing ~~made~~ recommendations on a cluster of issues related to course repetition, restarting the GPA when a student returns from academic separation, and requiring a cumulative GPA of at least 2.000 for graduation; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2012, the FSCUE ~~reviewed and approved~~ the recommendations, attached hereto as Exhibit ~~And~~

WHEREAS, on October 12, 2012, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee voted that said recommendations, attached hereto as Exhibits ~~should~~ be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Faculty Senate at its October 25, 2012 meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT  
FOR ALL CWRU UNDERGRADUATES

1. Grades for all iterations of repeated courses be included in the calculation of the GPA, but that the prohibition on ~~using~~ the P/NP option for a repeated course be ~~lifted~~
2. That we cease the practice of restarting the GPA calculation after a period of academic separation, and that we now allow students to maintain all credits earned before ~~separation~~ (not just those

Course Repetition

Restarting GPA Post-Separation

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April 17, 2012

Report from Subcommittee on  
Academic Standing to FSCUE

# A Tale of Four Students

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DQG HDUQV & ¶V JUDGX-DWrs and GPA = 2.00 FUHGLW

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# Some Concerns

Incentives : Do we mean to provide a GPA incentive for a student to repeat a course in which he received a disappointing grade rather than move on to something else?

Definitions : If a student fails the honors version of a course (PHYS 124) and then (wisely?) takes the non-honors version (PHYS 122), should that count as a

# Some Concerns

Inequity : Courses are offered with different frequency; some are offered only once. Is it equitable for some students to improve their GPAs because they had the good luck to fail a course that is being offered again?

Consistency : Why do we omit the first iteration of a repeated course in the reported GPA when we think it is important to include it in the scholarship GPA (under old rules)?

Integrity of the transcript : Is there a mismatch between the grades showing on

# Proposal on Course Repetition

That the grades for all iterations of repeated courses be included in the calculation of the GPA

but that the prohibition on using the P/NP option for a repeated course be lifted

Students readmitted after being separated for reasons of academic performance will retain the credits they earned before separation only for those courses passed with a grade of C or better.



# Some Concerns

Incentives : Does this distort decisions about academic probation and separation  
E\ D G G L Q J D F R Q V L G H U D W L R Q E H \ R Q G D V W X G H Q  
will lead him back to good standing?

Consistency : Why do we omit courses taken before separation from the reported  
GPA when we think it is important to include these in the GPA calculation for Latin  
honors at graduation?

Integrity of the transcript

# Proposal on Restarting GPA

That we cease the practice of restarting the GPA calculation after a period of academic separation,

and that we now allow students to maintain all credits earned before separation (not just those for which a grade of C or better was earned)

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Every candidate for a baccalaureate degree from the university must:

1. FRPSOHWH DIRXQG DWLRQ FXUULFXOXP «
2. complete two semesters of physical education;
3. complete a course of studies with a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.000 for work taken at Case Western Reserve University ; and
4. earn in residence at Case Western Reserve University a minimum of 60 semester hours, of which at least 30 must be earned after the student achieves senior status.

# Some Concerns

Completion of requirements vs. history : If a student has completed the requisite number of credit-hours with an appropriate GPA for those courses, why do we care that the student may have had some missteps along the way?

Difficulty overcoming bad grades , V LW ULJKW WKDW WKH RQ  
DQG )¶V DUH WR HDUQ \$¶V DQG %¶V RU UHSHDW V

# Some Concerns

Consistency with P/NP policy : I ZH DUH QRW FRQFHUQH G DE  
KLG GHQ EHKLQG 3 ¶V DQG 13 ¶V IRU HOHFWLYH FRX  
they are showing?

Consistency with major GPA : Why do we include all grades in calculating the overall GPA to check for 2.000 when we include only the courses used to fulfill major requirements in calculating the major GPA for 2.000 for those degrees that have such a requirement?

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That we make no change to the requirement of a cumulative GPA of at least 2.000 for graduation.

# Benchmarking Data

Polled AAU Registrars

43 Responded

# Benchmarking on Course Repetition

If an undergraduate enrolls in the same course for a second time, which grade is included in the GPA that you calculate for the student?

55% (22) Both grades

33% (13) Only the grade from the second enrollment

13% (5) Only the grade from the first enrollment



If an undergraduate is temporarily required to withdraw/  
suspended/separated from the university for a semester or more  
because of poor academic performance and then returns to the  
university, how are credits earned before the period of  
withdrawal treated?

# Benchmarking on Restarting GPA

If an undergraduate is temporarily required to withdraw/suspended/separated from the university for a semester or more because of poor academic performance and then returns to the university, how are the grades from before the period of absence treated in the GPA that you calculate for the student?

95.3% (41) All grades before separation are included in GPA

2.3% (1) Only grades for which student retains credit are included

2.3% (1) GPA is restarted

In addition to a total number of credit      -hours earned and meeting

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783 students graduated in May 2011.

Of these, 11 had been separated earlier.

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3 students were on both lists, for a total of 23 students.

2 would not have graduated.

1 would have had a higher GPA.



**THE END**