

SUNY Oswego – Academic Policies Council Minutes, October 31, 2014

Members in attendance: E. Benavides, S. Fettes, M. Mohammadi, J. Nichols, P. Russo, P. Tomascak, K. White, J. Zenor

Guests: B. Korbesmeyer, J. Pretzat-Merchant

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

1. The **agenda** was scrutinized. P. Tomascak moved to approve, seconded by K. White. This passed *nem con*.
2. The **minutes of the 10/3/14 meeting** were examined. K. White moved to approve, seconded by E. Benavides. This passed *nem con*.
3. S. Fettes gave a **Chair's report**. It was pointed out how strange it is at this point in the fall semester to have so little business. No updated side-by-side has been received for the Gerontology Minor revision. Priorities and Planning Council reportedly had problems with this proposal as well, but it is unclear if they are holding it up or not.
4. The proposal to **change the Psychology B.A. Honors requirements** was discussed. It was identified that the proposal lacks much in terms of rationale for changes. For example, it is unclear if the prior restrictions (e.g., B or higher grade in PSY 280 & 290) carry over. The full paragraph needs to be included, even if there are no changes in language. The main problem was that the proposed revision does not really address the total hours. Honors majors must do PSY 490H, yet they cannot take this three separate times for credits, as appears to be one possible choice in the revised wording. It was noted that Banner and the Catalog differ: the former includes the minimum grade language, the latter does not. M. Mohammadi will check on that detail and the proposal will be sent back for clarifications (no one was assigned to handle this).
5. The **proposal to change policies on academic standing** was considered. The guests and M. Mohammadi guided the Council through the proposal, which stems from the work of the Academic Intervention Committee (whose general recommendations received Council support at the 10/3/14 meeting). The guests underscored the distinction between required and recommended actions, in that the former must be able to be tracked. These should be clarified and made consistent throughout. There were questions on how to implement the requirement that the Academic Success Plan be in place no later than one week before the start of the following semester, although there seems to be several possible ways of doing this.

The Council noted three instances where inconsistencies resulted in poor clarity: use of good/bad/successful; the difference between semester GPA and overall GPA; and who is indicated by "advisor" (primary advisor, academic advisor, SASS, etc.).

A correction was made in the Catalog Copy: option (c) needs to be included under Academic Disqualification.

The Council recommended adding check boxes for "meet with course instructor (office hours, appointment, etc.)," and "spend X hours per week in a monitored study hall" in the Required Part of the Academic Success Plan.

M. Mohammadi will check on the current Catalog language that would be carried over under Scholarly Standard (e.g., the use of "marking period"). He will also talk to Financial Aid to see if the "any semester in which the student registers for twelve or more credits" wording can be improved.

Following a motion from P. Tomascak, the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting will be on Friday November 14 in Shineman rm. 425.

Respectfully submitted by P. Tomascak, 11/2/14. Approved by unanimous vote at the 2/6/15 meeting.