

8-27-2012

Student Academic Policies Committee Minutes of the Academic Senate 2012-08-27

University of Dayton. Student Academic Policies Committee

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Recommended Citation

University of Dayton. Student Academic Policies Committee, "Student Academic Policies Committee Minutes of the Academic Senate 2012-08-27" (2012). *All Committee Minutes*. 168.
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Minutes
Student Academic Policies Committee

Date: August 27, 2012

Attendees: G. Doyle, A. Evaraya, T. Lau, J. McCombe, P McGreal, T. Saliba

The SAPC discussed three issues.

1. Scholarship Distribution – Currently the university provides scholarships to students based on a percentage of their first year tuition. As students continue into their third and higher semesters the dollar amount remains constant, but the percentage decreases as tuition increases. Furthermore, it is not clear what the policy is for students who are part time. Two suggestions are being considered. First, the scholarship percentage should remain the same as stated at matriculation. Second, students should be given the same tuition discount as part time students – less than 12 cr hr.

It was suggested that SAPC invite Kathy Harmon to meet with us on Monday, Sept 10, 2012 to discuss the scholarship policy at UD and what changes they are contemplated. We might also consider having the Senate invite Kathy to layout scholarship policies and future plans.

2. Eighteen Credit Hours Revisited – An eighteenth cr hr proposal was passed by the senate in 1995. The administration decided that many freshmen and sophomores are not “mature” enough to take 18 cr hr. Currently students are not charged for an eighteenth cr hr only if they are juniors or seniors. The policy speaks to “completed (graded) coursework,” but it is unclear what that means. It is being proposed that full time student classification be 12 – 18 cr hr for all undergraduates. Several benefits would result from this new policy.

- a. It would avoid confusion as to what it means to be “completed (graded).”
- b. Since most courses are three cr hr, it naturally accommodates six 3 cr hr courses.
- c. It would make it easier for students to graduate in seven semesters – a sentiment expressed by the BoT several years ago.
- d. It would help students who are doing a double major, a minor, or a concentration.
- e. It would allow students to take a crossing boundaries, 1 cr hr course, for CAP.

It also raises two questions. If freshman and sophomores are not “mature” enough to take an 18th hour, why does the university allow them to do it if they pay for it? And are we financially penalizing the brighter or more motivated students?

3. Summer Tuition – Currently summer and part time tuitions are based on a per cr hr, and the cr hr cost is based on the fall/spring tuition divided by 15. Since most full time students are taking 16 – 18 cr hr, it is suggested that summer and part time tuition be based on the fall/spring tuition divided by 17 or 18.

Several benefits would result from this new policy.

- a. It would be more equitable. Summer and part time students would not be paying a higher cost per cr hr.
- b. With a lower tuition per cr hr, more students are likely to attend during the summer and part time.
- c. More attendance during the summer provides a better use of facilities.

Two other issues were brought up.

1. Parents are asking why is there an engineering surcharge on students taking non-engineering courses on a part time basis, e.g. an online history course during the summer?
2. Should we adopt a specific policy on academic dishonesty associated with on-line courses? George Doyle will contact Deb Bickford for advice.