Standards for Students Committee

Final Report
2017-2018

Members:

A. Wilson, Chair (Higher Education Administration)

P. Alessandra (Prof Staff Acad. Affairs), L. Berglund (English), R. Conners-Wilkins (Admissions), M.C. Cummings (Elem. Ed./Read.), J. DePasquale (Grad. Student rep), S. Felsenfeld (Speech & Language Pathology), R. Fish (Social and Psychological Foundations of Education), K. Fujiuchi (Library), M. Knowles (Communication), H. Maldonado (Academic Standards), J. Scott (Student), M. Skerrett (Biology), J. Wieczkowski (Anthropology), S. Young, (Acad. Liaison, Dean of Students Office)

Charge: In support of Buffalo State College’s vision, mission, and core values, the committee on Standards for Students shall review and recommend policies and procedures dealing with but not limited to:

1. The admission and readmission of all students.
2. The retention of all students in regard to academic policies, student conduct, and institutional programs and initiatives.
3. The graduation of all students.

Name of Chair Submitting Report: Amy Wilson

Anticipated Vacancies in 2018-2019 for Committee Members:
The Standards for Students committee will be looking for an undergraduate and graduate student representative, a faculty member from the School of Education, and a professional staff member.

Approximate Number of Meetings: 9 meetings

Annual Report:

Old business from 2016-2017

1. Clarified transfer credit policy regarding excluded courses and clemency – Revised DOPS policy I:01:05 to reflect current transfer credit practices regarding clemency and excluded courses, which was not reflected in current policy.
   a. Approved by Senate at April 2018 meeting.
2. **Course Audit Policy Review** – Joint review led by Instruction and Research; a draft will be ready to present to the Senate in fall 2018.

3. **ESL and Global Language Requirement** – Clarifying current verification process and demonstration of competency. Will continue discussion in fall regarding solutions and resolutions.

4. **Continuous Enrollment Policy** – Asked for update on impact of new communication plan and new leave of absence policy from AVP for Enrollment Management. Feedback was that there has been no significant change yet and that it is too early to fully understand impact of changes, due to recent implementation. Recommendation was made to consider how students are notified about LOA policy.

New business for 2017-2018

1. **Increased transfer credit limit from 88 to 90** – revision of DOPS policy I:01:05 and DOPS policy I:04:00 to assist transfer students in meeting requirements for Excelsior Scholarship.
   a. Approved by Senate at November 2017 meeting.

2. **Broadened and clarified course challenge policy** – revision of DOPS policy I:04:01 to broaden means by which students could challenge (beyond examination) and earn college credit (Alternate Methods of Earning College Credit) further clarifying policy, process and procedure.
   a. Approved by Senate at March 2018 meeting.

3. **Course Repeat policy** – Proposal to revise DOPS policy I:16:08 to allow students to repeat a course outside of Buffalo State and transfer the course in for credit, excluding original grade.
   a. Voted on by Senate at May 2018 meeting.

4. **Graduation with Honors policy** – Proposal to revise DOPS policy I:16:06 to increase minimum credits completed at Buffalo State from 54 to 60 for honors designation and to edit language for consistency with new online degree application process.
   a. Voted on by Senate at May 2018 meeting.

5. **Upper Division Credit Limit** – Was asked to review and consider Buffalo State compliance issues with SUNY Upper Division Credit requirement. Buffalo State catalog suggests a minimum of 36, however, DOPS indicates we are operating at a requirement of 45, which is in line with SUNY requirements. Issue was presented to Provost who agreed to work with the Deans to get departments back in compliance before Middle States periodic review in 2019.

6. **Accommodations for US Military Drills and Training** – Asked to review proposal from SUNY University Faculty Senate for SUNY to adopt policy to treat military obligations as excused absences. Recommended endorsement.

Postponed Items from 2017-2018, to be addressed 2018-2019

1. **Graduate School Course Repeat Policy** – Reviewed proposed changes from Graduate Advisory Council to allow graduate student to repeat a course (they may have received an A-C) in which
the content has been substantially revised and repeat is approved by dept. Made recommended changes and sent back to GAC/Graduate School.

2. **IB Credits and Credit by Evaluation** – Initial review of current DOPS policy regarding IB Credits, have received feedback from Admissions and Honors program regarding impact and will proceed with conversation and considerations in the fall.

3. **Graduate School Upper Division Criteria** – Reviewed proposal from Graduate Advisory Council to establish criteria for defining and designating upper division graduate coursework. Final proposal will be reviewed in the fall.

4. **Administrative removal of students from classes** – review of suggested process/creation of policy for students without the proper pre-reqs or override.

5. **Graduation/Residency requirements** – review current policy on waiving 16 credit campus completion and applicability to other alternative methods of earning college credit (study abroad vs study away, CLEP, etc.).

Tabled business in 2017-2018

1. **Grade Change** policy (per F13 SUNY policy statement) – review campus compliance with SUNY regulation and identify any areas for process improvement including faculty education

2. **Minimum Grade for Transfer Credit Acceptance** – policy review: 
   [http://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/genedreq/](http://www.suny.edu/attend/academics/genedreq/)