

UNR Faculty Senate 2007-08
Academic Standards Committee

Purpose: Monitor, conduct studies, and makes recommendations on matters such as admission standards, grading practices, degree requirements, academic status, scholarships, and related issues.

Charges

1. Start a faculty-wide conversation about ensuring faculty follow ethical rules on academic integrity. The ASUN Senate created an honor code for students and this committee should draft an honor code for the University. In addition, the University Code of Conduct and Policies (section IV, "Academic Standards") should be in separate sections lay out explicitly the nature of possible academic and administrative sanctions, and distinguish these two types of sanctions clearly (this change should be reviewed against NSHE Code policy). **Should GSA pass similar action.**
2. Right now there is no limit in terms of how long a student can remain on disqualified status. While the numbers may be relatively small, there are likely some students who continue to enroll in classes while on disqualified status semester after semester without making any progress whatsoever in terms of raising their GPA. In fact, some students continue to dig themselves into a deeper and deeper hole by continuing to flunk the classes in which they enroll. The Academic Standards Committee should review policies at other institutions in terms of how they handle this population of students and make a recommendation as to whether our existing policy should remain as is or be modified. Possible changes might include restricting the number of semesters a student can remain on disqualified status without making "satisfactory" (however that might be defined) improvement in GPA; requiring students to "stop out" of the university after a certain number of semesters on disqualified status; requiring students to enroll in some sort of study skills/academic improvement type course, etc.
3. A more comprehensive and consistent set of guidelines for disciplinary action in both the academic and administrative sanction area should continue to be developed and implemented. These should involve progressively more severe disciplinary actions based on the degree of academic dishonesty and **the number of instances**. In the administrative sanction area, repeated instances should be treated very seriously.
4. **NEW CHARGE**

Standing Charges

1. Appoint a liaison from the committee to the Core Curriculum Board. Report as often as is necessary so that the senate will be well-informed and can provide comment. Contact Paul Neill.
2. Appoint a liaison from the committee to the Academic Advising Advisory Board. Report as often as is necessary to give senators an opportunity to provide input. Contact Nancy Markee. Let her know the name of the committee liaison so s/he can be added to the board's mailing list.