

1991 - 92 ANNUAL REPORT

Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee

The 1991 - 92 members of the Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee (SSPC) were:

Daniel Berman, University 101 (Elected for the term 1991-94)
 Shine Brooks, Student
 Mac Brown, Education (Elected for the term 1989-92)
 William Castles, English (Elected for the term 1990-93)
 Terry Davis, Admissions (Appointed)
 Daniel Hayes, Student
 Nancy Lane, French and Classics (Elected for the term 1991-94)
 Jarvis Latham, Journalism (Elected for the term 1990-93)
 Eugene Reeder, Pharmacy (Elected for the term 1988-91)
 Willard Sharp, Geological Sciences (Elected for the term 1989-92)

The administrative appointed member has served on the committee for at least the past five years.

The committee usually met in the afternoon of the second Tuesday of the month for approximately two hours each time. The actual meeting dates were as follows:

July 16, 1991	February 11, 1992
August 20, 1991	February 25, 1992
September 10, 1991	March 17, 1992
October 8, 1991	April 14, 1992
November 12, 1991	June 4, 1992
December 6, 1991	

Attendance by the faculty members of the committee was excellent; the student members attended irregularly, however.

Several issues were addressed by the Committee. The specific issues and committee actions are summarized as follows:

A. Review and approval of proposed changes in college standards.

Five proposals for revisions in scholastic standards were reviewed, approved, and submitted for information to the Faculty Senate as listed:

1. College of Nursing (9/4/91).
2. College of Engineering (2/5/92).
3. College of Journalism and Mass Communications (5/6/92).
4. College of Pharmacy (5/6/92).
5. English, College of Humanities and Social Sciences (7/3/92).

B. Student appeals.

The Committee reviewed the appeals of two students. The committee rejected both appeals on the basis that they did not demonstrate grounds for an appeal.

C. Military Call-up Policy.

At the time of the military call-up during the fall semester of 1990, it became evident that the University had no clear policy to assist students affected by the emergency. As a result of that experience, the Provost, Arthur Smith, formed an ad hoc committee which codified the actual policy used during the call-up. Because the proposed policy included matters of grading, our Committee was asked to review the policy. Initially it was thought that this policy might be placed in the university catalogue. However, this seemed inappropriate for such an uncommon occurrence. Our committee recommended that the military call-up policy be placed in the Academic Affairs Section of the University Policies and Procedures Manual. The policy was presented as a report (2/5/92) by our committee and adopted by the Faculty Senate.

D. Academic Forgiveness.

Last year, our committee presented to the Faculty Senate (3/6/91), an academic forgiveness policy. The Senate found this version to be flawed and recommended that an attempt be made to find a policy which would be applicable system-wide. The committee sent for consideration three possible forgiveness policies to the corresponding committees at each of the regional campuses. The chair of the committee met with representatives of each of the regional campuses (11/22/91). Following a lengthy discussion, a policy was drafted. This draft was widely circulated and comments were considered and incorporated where appropriate. Each of the Faculty Senates at Spartanburg (2/21/92), Coastal (4/1/92), Columbia (4/1/92), and Aiken (4/28/92) has now passed an Academic Forgiveness Policy. However, each for various reasons has adopted a slightly differing version. We hope that any substantive differences can be resolved during the 1992/93 academic year.

E. Additional Issues under Consideration.

1. Implementation of the Provost's Task Force Report on Student Progression Requirements.
2. Examination of the catalogue definition of S/U grades.
3. Review of standards for and authorization of neighborhood courses.

F. Committee Membership for 1992-93.

New members elected for three-year terms each were Professors Gwen Felton (Nursing) and Richard Kherlopian (Education). Jarvis Latham (Journalism and Mass Communications) was elected chair for the 1992-93 academic year.

G. College Committee Annual Reports.

According to the Faculty Manual (1987, p. 20), college scholastic standards and petitions committees are required to submit annual reports on the number of petitions received and the disposition of each to the University Committee by September 1. Table 1 provides this information for the academic year 1990-91. Information for the 1991-92 academic year will be included in the 1993 annual report of the University Committee.

Table 1. University Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee

1990-91 A.Y. Summary of College Petitions and Dispositions.

College	Total	Appr.	Cond.	Dis.	Oth.
Applied Professional Science	44	24	6	14	0
Business Administration	86	38	13	35	0
Criminal Justice	35	14	6	15	0
Engineering	107	11	39	50	7
Health	0	0	0	0	0
Humanities/Social Sciences	580	166	230	110	74
Journalism/Mass. Comm.	35	14	14	6	1
Nursing	203	141	12	46	4
Pharmacy	8	0	3	5	0
Science/Mathematics	21	2	6	13	0
S.C. College	1	0	0	1	0
TOTAL	1120	410	329	295	86

Appr - Approved without condition

Cond - Approved with conditions

Dis - Disapproved

Oth - Other including deferred, returned without action, and no action.

Most petitions were for early reinstatement from suspension followed by relief from progression and admission requirements.