

Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions Annual Report 2015-2016

Committee Membership:

Elected

Rishi Chakraborty	Public Health (2016)
Candle Wester	Law Library (2016)
Susan Poslusny	Nursing (2017)
Kathy Snediker, chair	University Libraries (2017)
Susan Rathbun-Grubb	Library & Information Science (2018)
Ernest Wiggins	Journalism (2018)

Appointed

Scott Verzyl, ex-officio	Admissions
Aaron Marterer, ex-officio	Registrar's Office
Lucas Fry	Student

New elected members with terms beginning May 2016

Conor Harrison	Geography (2019)
Alexander Yankovsky	Earth & Ocean Sciences (2019)

Committee Meetings:

November 18, 2015

June 13, 2016

In addition to these meeting, the committee used email communication for discussion and voting. Also, in December 2015 and January 2016 the chair of the Committee met with representatives from Student Affairs and the Registrar's Office as well as outside consultants to discuss the Comprehensive Student Record Project. The chair and another committee member also attended the Carolina Core Committee meeting on June 8th to hear discussion on potential changes to the transfer credit policy for overlay courses.

Business:

1. Proposed Changes to Academic Regulations in the Undergraduate Bulletin

A number of bulletin changes were proposed by the Associate and Assistant Deans Council and the Office of the University Registrar. The impetus for the changes was to correct inaccurate information, to reflect the terminology and content that is used in the Banner student information system, and to reflect current procedures for changes in curriculum and withdrawal from the University. Information relevant to students in associate degree programs was added. Grades of FN and UN were added to facilitate reporting on students who fail to officially drop or withdraw from courses. The Committee met and worked with the Registrar to review the changes and make small revisions to the proposal for grammar and clarity. On

November 18, 2015 the revised draft policy was approved by the Committee to send to the Faculty Senate for final approval. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the changes on December 2, 2015.

2. Instructor Permission for Auditing Courses

The Chair of Faculty Senate asked the Committee to consider this issue at the request of the Associate Dean of the Honors College. The existing form for auditing a course only required the student's signature, so the proposal was to require instructor approval as well. The Committee discussed the arguments for and against the change by email and agreed that faculty approval was desirable based on both pedagogical concerns as well as concerns about increasing competition for limited spaces in courses needed for credit. The Committee also agreed that bulletin changes were not required as the procedure is not explicitly stated, so a motion was made and approved on Feb. 19, 2016 to require faculty permission for all audits. The Office of the Registrar was asked to modify the approval form to add a faculty signature line. This change to the procedure was announced at the Faculty Senate meeting on March 2, 2016.

3. Election of Chair for 2016-17

The committee elected Kathy Snediker to a second term as chair by unanimous consent.

4. Annual Reports of the College Committees

As mandated on pages 14 and 15 of the *USC Faculty Manual*, each college is required to file an annual report with the University Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions documenting the number of petitions received and the disposition of those petitions. The Committee has solicited these annual reports and will publish a compilation of the results once all reports are received and reviewed.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Snediker, Chair