

August 21, 2009

TO: Members of the Faculty

FROM: Paula Smith, Chair, Committee on Academic Standing

RE: Academic Year 2008-09 Annual Report

The Committee met regularly to review petitions, waivers, and other requests concerning academic regulations. During January and June the Committee also reviewed the academic status of all students on the academic docket.

Members of the Committee were as follows:

Paula Smith (Chair)	Vince Eckhart	Tyler Roberts
Cheryl Chase	Christopher French	Joyce Stern
Houston Dougharty	Eric McIntyre	Mark Schneider

This year there were 2 dismissals and 19 suspensions. Last year a total of 6 students were dismissed and 10 were suspended. In 2008-09, during the January docket, 1 student was dismissed and 8 students were suspended; during the June docket, 1 student was dismissed and 11 were suspended. Last fall 17 students were placed on probation and 11 were placed on probation this spring. Last year a total of 29 students were placed on probation.

The Subcommittee on Academic Honesty considered 9 cases involving a total of 13 students. This year 5 students were found guilty. Of the 5 cases resulting in a guilty decision, 5 cases involved plagiarism. Penalties were consistently imposed for those found guilty of a first instance of dishonesty: zero on the assignment, calculation of the zero into the final grade, lowering of the resulting grade one full letter, and one or two semesters of academic dishonesty probation. By faculty legislation, none of the convicted students are eligible for graduation with honors.

The Committee also approved 24 petitions for early graduation, they denied one petition, and approved two petitions to continue for a ninth semester.

In December, Julie Hoye (SGA, VPAA) gave a presentation on the recent student Initiative and Resolution on Student Representation on the Committee on Academic Standing. The following motion was passed by the Committee and two students, Sam Wice and Jacob Reisberg, started serving on the Committee in February 2009.

Student Representation on the Committee on Academic Standing

The Committee on Academic Standing approves the appointment of two students to the CAS committee. These students shall be appointed utilizing the following process:

- a) Students will apply to SGA using a standard application form to be approved by both SGA and CAS.
- b) SGA shall review the applicants and recommend a final list to CAS from which to choose.
- c) CAS or the CAS chair shall review and interview applicants and approve the two final student members.

Initially student members shall participate in all discussions that occur during the academic semester but shall be non-voting members. Student members will not server on the academic honesty sub-committee. Student members shall sign confidentiality statements and shall be mentored by a member of the committee to insure that they understand the processes and the agenda items and are able to contribute in a meaningful way.

Further, it is agreed that the spring semester 2009 shall be a trial period for student members on the CAS committee. At the end of the semester, the students and other committee members will assess the experience and determine the next steps to pursue. It shall be understood that for students to become voting members of CAS will require faculty review and approval.

