

Faculty Council on Academic Standards
2010-11 Annual Report
Submitted by John Schaufelberger, Chair

The Faculty Council on Academic Standards (FCAS) is responsible for matters of university policy relating to the academic affairs of the university, such as admissions policy, scholastic standards, university graduation requirements, and inter-institutional academic standards (University Handbook, Volume 2, Part 4, Chapter 42, Section 42-34).

This responsibility falls into the following four primary areas:

1. Review new and revised undergraduate (and some professional) degree programs.
2. Provide guidance to the Office of Admissions in the development of operating policies and procedures for admission.
3. Provide guidance to the Office of the Registrar in the development of operating procedures for continuation and graduation.
4. Establish criteria for Baccalaureate Honors and select Medalists for freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes.

FCAS addresses these primary areas through subcommittees and works on related issues either through working groups, special subcommittees, or the council as a whole (as appropriate). FCAS met every other week (except for finals and break weeks) during the academic year, with subcommittees and working groups meeting separately. The following is a summary of the activities of FCAS for the 2010-2011 academic year.

Non-Routine Actions

In addition to the normal flow of business, FCAS handled five other major issues.

FCAS received complaints from ASUW about classroom presentations being made by for-profit companies. FCAS crafted guidelines regarding in-class presentations by outside organizations and issued them to all faculty members in November 2010.

To provide guidance to academic units, FCAS developed policy pertaining to minors that specifies that minors must include 25-35 credits, at least 50% or 15 credits must be upper division, courses counted toward a minor must be taken for numeric grade, and that the major advisor must sign off on minor declaration paperwork.

When the UW Bothell and UW Tacoma campuses were created, both campuses were allowed to offer courses that were cloned from courses offered on the UW Seattle campus. FCAS adopted a policy to end the process of cloning courses and require that complete documentation be submitted for any new course that is to be offered on any campus.

FCAS received an application from the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics to establish a new Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering degree that would be offered in the United Arab Emirates. This is the first undergraduate degree being offered that requires a waiver of the 45-credit residency requirement, because none of the students enrolled in this program will come to a UW campus for

instruction. After considerable discussion with the department, the program was approved on May 27, 2011.

FCAS had several discussions regarding guidelines pertaining to satisfactory progress requirements for students admitted to the university with credits and courses from advanced placement and international baccalaureate tests. After considering several alternatives, the council approved a policy on May 27, 2011.

Review of New and Revised Degree Programs

The Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs (SCAP) under the leadership of Brad Holt reviewed all proposals for new degree programs, majors (and options within majors), and minors as well as all changes for existing majors and minors. FCAS, acting on SCAP's recommendations, approved 45 routine revisions to major and minor requirements. The Council also approved non-routine revisions in Art, Bioengineering, College of the Environment, Dance, Drama, Forest Resources, Global Health, Humanities, Linguistics, Materials Science and Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physics, Social Sciences, and Social Work.

Honors

The Honors Subcommittee under the leadership of Gunnar Almgren established the criteria for Baccalaureate Honors and selected recipients for the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior medals.

Admission and Graduation Requirements

The Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation under the leadership of Susanna Cunningham proposed a change to the English Language Proficiency Policy for Undergraduate Admission to enable petition in the event the student is unable to achieve minimum test scores on an accepted examination. If the petition is approved, the applicant would be subject to an assessment process conducted by the UW Educational Outreach English Language Programs. The subcommittee also proposed a limited waiver for admission of transfer students completing a Statway-based curriculum. Currently UW has an admission requirement of three years of mathematics study including algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra. Two community colleges have adopted an experimental mathematics curriculum of algebra integrated with statistics known as Statway. To support their experiment, the subcommittee proposed that a three-year waiver of the existing mathematics admission requirement be granted for those students who complete a full-year of mathematics at a community college in a Statway-curriculum culminating in a mathematics or statistics course that is transferable at the 100-level or above. Both proposals were approved

Council and Subcommittee Membership

Council Members for 2010-11 Academic Year:

Faculty: Gunnar Almgren, Social Work; Susanna Cunningham, Nursing; Nick Holman, Navy; Bradley Holt, Chemical Engineering; Donald Janssen, Civil Engineering; Richard Keil, Oceanography; Patricia Kramer, Anthropology; David Pengra, Physics; John Schaufelberger (Chair), Construction Management; Sarah Stroup, Classics; Jennifer Taggart, Mathematics

Presidential Designee: Phillip Ballinger, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment, Admissions

Ex-Officio Representatives: Jed Bradley, ASUW; Eleanor Canter, GPSS; Cynthia Fugate, ALUW; Mel Wensel, UAAC; Carlos Williams, PSO

Subcommittee on Admissions and Programs:

Brad Holt (Chair), Nick Holman, Patricia Kramer, John Schaufelberger, Jennifer Taggart, Jed Bradley, Mel Wensel, David Sayrs, Jennifer Payne

Subcommittee on Admissions and Graduation:

Susanna Cunningham (Chair), Richard Keil, Sarah Stroup, Cynthia Fugate, Don Janssen, Brad Holt, Philip Ballinger

Subcommittee on Honors:

Gunnar Almgren (Chair), Richard Keil, David Pengra, John Schaufelberger, Carlos Williams