

Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee Meeting  
January 27, 2017  
305 Caddo Room, LSU Union

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by Chairman Graham Bodie.

In attendance:

Voting Members: Graham Bodie, Suzanne Stauffer, Kanchan Maiti, Doug McMillin, Cathleen Williams, Alex Garn, Fakhri Al-Bagdadi

Non-voting Members: Michael Blandino, Paul Ivey, Walt Holliday

Guests: James Mickler, Mary Wallace, Emmett Brown

Minutes from the December 6, 2016 meeting were approved.

Proposals:

1. Second reading: Proposal from the Office of Academic Affairs to refocus the concentrated study period, immediately preceding examinations, as an authentic preparation time for students. The proposal includes a prohibition of graded assignments during the three days of concentrated study each semester. It also recommends extending the ban on student activities through the week of final exams.

The recommendation is to change to policy so that no work can be due during the concentrated study period, not even 5% or less of the grade. Questions were raised by committee members as to the benefit of passing the proposal and would graduate students be affected.

The discussion today emphasized refocusing concentrated study period as an authentic study period for students. Primary concerns were:

1. Will this apply to graduate students?
2. Will there be a purpose for the last week of class? Faculty currently assume that if a graded assignment is on their syllabus, then it is acceptable to have them during the concentrated study period.

Mary Wallace (Academic Policy Committee) indicated that students report violations such as final exams and class projects during the concentrated study period. She said they are nervous about reporting the violations for fear of their grades being affected. James Mickler, a biological sciences student, indicated that no other SEC schools report issues with compliance.

The ASH committee would like revised language in the proposal to clearly define the issues. The revision should clearly define (a) what would be exempted from the rule to maintain motivation to attend class, (b) whether presentations on syllabus be allowed, (c) whether participation grades be allowed, and (d) if graduate students are included.

Proposal was tabled until next meeting with a newly written proposal to be presented.

2. Academic Affairs Policy Review Committee along with the Online Policy Working Group proposed to add language in the General Catalog attendance policy that alerts students to what constitutes attendance in online courses.

Proposal was tabled until the next meeting since no one from Academic Affairs was able to attend today.

3. First reading: The Office of Enrollment Management proposes to make changes to LSU's freshman core course requirements in order to align more closely with the 2018 TOPS University Core being used by the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance, the Louisiana Department of Education, and the Louisiana Board of Regents. The Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee approved the majority of these changes in April, 2014. This proposal seeks to further align with our peers.

Second reading will take place at the February meeting. In the meantime, committee will seek feedback from departments affected. A list of AP courses will be obtained.

4. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.