

Meeting Minutes: November 1997

Present: William Beyer, Don Chamberlain, Chuck Dahl, Gail Fraser, Caroline Gilbert, Chris Gordon, Mary Koskan, Kim Swanson Linner, Don Meyers, Katy Olson, Steven Pearthree, Jan Reifsteck, Lonna Riedinger, Alice Ross, Jim Rowan, Jan Schlueter, Sue Van Voorhis, Susan Hunter Weir, Doris Wiehe

October 6, 1997 minutes approved.

Announcements:

Over 80% of students able to self register did. 97% of new freshman processed their own registrations.

OTR still checks for incomplete transactions and sends an updated fee statement to the students who did not complete the registration.

AP and NSE work on APAS - Admissions is working on automating Advanced Placement credit using the transfer part of APAS.

National Student Exchange credit comes from many different schools. It will continue to be evaluated like other work from these various schools.

Summer Session terminology - Because of federal financial aid regulations we have changed our summer session terminology. We now have one summer term which is comprised of two sessions. Our systems will not change. The only significant change is the way we certify attendance.

Implementation of transcript change - The change to not show transfer courses on the transcript occurred over the weekend. An ad will be in the Daily (p3, November 4) and the web site will be updated. Please let OTR know of any bugs.

Bracketing - The new grading policy specifies that if a student repeats a course, the most recent grade counts. How bracketing of earlier work is to be handled is not clear.

SCEP will probably continue to provide clarifications or suggested modifications (see one time drop below).

One Time Drop flag - The one time drop provision of the new grading policy is system wide. The flag code is "CD." A student may use the one time drop at any point. Colleges will enter the code. Colleges may still grant late drops for extenuating circumstances with out requiring the student to use up the "CD."

The new University grading policy is on the internet. Address:

<http://www.umn.edu/usenate/policies/gradingpolicy.html>

Below is a section from SCEP Minutes of 10/15.

Professor Koch reported that she had been asked to inquire of the Committee if it would be willing to reconsider the uses of the "W" and "O" grades. The "O" is given for outstanding performance in Medical School; other colleges in the Academic Health Center would like to use it for such things as senior papers.

Professor Koch proposed that the "free" W be within each college (rather than just one for the student's entire time at the University). There was concern that with the availability of the one "free" withdrawal in each college, students will transfer among colleges in order to obtain repeated opportunity for the "free" withdrawal.

After very short discussion, during which Committee members found little merit to making these changes in the grading system, it promptly voted unanimously to not revise the system.

Early setting of tuition - The PeopleSoft Policy Group is looking at trying to get the U to set tuition and fees earlier. Many schools do this without waiting for the legislature act. RAC consensus is that this delay is poor public relations. Students and parents want to know how to budget for the coming year before early registration.

Early orientation - A subcommittee of the First Year Experience committee (including Lonna Riedinger, Bill Beyer and Gail Fraser) is looking at revising orientation. This group is suggesting the two day program start later in the day and run into the evening, and that the program start earlier in the summer.

Tracking flags - Several colleges use tracking flags to track specified students. The biggest user is CLA. These flags follow the student after a transfer to another unit and may no longer be useful. How do we unclutter the record? CLA will provide more information next meeting.

PeopleSoft Issues - The PeopleSoft Policy Group has put together a set of recommendations for standardizing policy. Some standardization is required by PeopleSoft which will not be able to handle all of our current complexity and some is to ease the complex maze of the University for students. A group of issues have been identified and distributed to SCEP and to deans. RAC members are encouraged to find and read a copy.

The PeopleSoft transcript is not sophisticated. An alpha sort of courses can not be done. Unit GPAs and coefficients of completion can not be calculated. These can be done on the APAS system but some "old" students are not on APAS and pre-admission "programs" have not been put into APAS.

PeopleSoft only counts credits to determine full-time/part time status. It does not look at unique courses or programs.

PeopleSoft does not count credits in progress to determine class status. RAC will look at this issue to determine a new queue.

PeopleSoft does not set up Lecture-Lab-Recitation sections the way we now do. RAC will look at this issue.

PeopleSoft allows only two levels of course overrides, not the three we now use and it will only allow use of either magic number or administrative override, not both (choice to be set course by course).

RAC will be discussing PeopleSoft issues and making recommendations to the PS Student 2000 records/advising team.