Membership

Members of the Committee on Academic Standing during the 2015-2016 academic year included:

Fall 2015: Shelly Leibowitz, Kate Kenny, Christina Riggs-Romaine, Michelle Santos, Alex Trayford (Chair), Steven Viveiros, Jonathan Walsh. Student representatives: Avi Anshika ’16, Marguerite Dooley ’16

Spring 2016: Shelly Leibowitz, Kate Kenny, Clinton O’Dell, Christina Riggs-Romaine, Michelle Santos, Alex Trayford (Chair), Steven Viveiros. Student representatives: Amaya Illuri ’16, Marguerite Dooley ’16

The Committee met 30 times during the 2015-2016 academic year and will meet two more times: Academic Review (June 2), and the subsequent review of appeals (June 20). One sub-committee was formed: Appellate Subcommittee – Fall: Christine Riggs-Romaine, Jonathan Walsh. Spring: Christina Riggs-Romaine, Clinton O’Dell.

Petitions for Academic Exceptions

As of May 16, 2016, the committee reviewed 378 petitions (69 more than 2014-2015), approving 92% (a 3% increase over last year), denying 8%. Frequent petitions presented to the Committee are:

- Petitions to carry a reduced course load (fewer than three classes) or to drop/withdraw from a class. This constituted 57% of all petitions received (a 1% decrease over last year). Drops prior to the drop deadline have been approved, with advisor’s signature;
- Petitions to carry more than a 5.5 course load (most frequently approved with advisor/departmental support);
- Petitions for Off-Campus Study exceptions (a mix of both below the prerequisite GPA and waiver of Senior Residency);
- Late add/change in Pass/Grade/Fail option (most frequently denied);
- Foreign languages substitution (approved when presented with documentation and appropriate course substitutes);
- Petitions to add a course late (approved with instructor support);
- Retroactive withdrawal/drop of a course that the student did not actually take (approved when confirmed by the instructor);
- Early graduation (approved with documentation that all required coursework will be completed)

Academic Standing

The committee presented students for graduation in October 2015 and February 2016. The annual list in May is forthcoming.

The committee held an Academic Review meeting on January 5, 2016 to determine students placed on Academic Probation, removed from Academic Probation, Suspended, or Academically Dismissed, followed by an appeal meeting on January 14, 2016.

The committee reviewed 100 students. Following are the results from the meeting.

- 28 students were removed from probation
- 44 students were placed on probation
- 23 students were suspended
- 4 students continued on probation
- 1 student was academically dismissed

Fifteen students appealed their suspension status, ten were approved to return on probation for the spring 2016 semester, five petitions were denied. One student appealed their dismissal status. That student was approved to return for the spring 2016 semester.

The spring semester Academic Review will be on June 2, 2016 with appeals being considered on June 20, 2016.
**Faculty Legislation**

No changes to faculty legislation were presented.

**Discussion Topics**

The committee discussed a variety of topics, including:

- Student academic grievance policy (instituted)
- Students returning from academic dismissal
- Degrees in Progress condition (retain current policy)
- Honor Code violations and petitions to drop course violated
- SGA Constitution presented by SGA President Sarah Hilton
- Requirement of students to attain instructor’s signature to drop a course (instituted)
- Calendars for upcoming semester (to be approved at the May 19, 2016 faculty meeting)
- Students studying abroad who were not approved by Wheaton

**Scholarships/Fellowships**

- The committee met twice to award Wheaton Foundation monies. The total awarded was $7500.
- Wheaton Honors: The committee selected two students as recipients of the A. Howard Meneely Prize – Allison Lizotte ’16 - $150, Lauren Schiffer ’16 - $150.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Leibowitz, Mathematics
Kate Kenny, Dean of Students
Clinton O’Dell, Theater
Christina Riggs-Romaine, Psychology
Avi Anshika ’16
Marguerite Dooley ’16
Amaya Illuri ’16

Michelle Santos, Registrar
Alex Trayford, Chair, Senior Associate Dean of Studies
Steven Viveiros, Dean of Advising and Academic Success
Jonathan Walsh, French Studies