Academic Standards Committee

Report to Senate – April 7, 2021

The following proposals were brought to the Accademia Standard Committee over the course of the last six weeks. Please find the committees responses to the proposals below:

1) Double counting of courses for majors / minors

Proposal:

Dr. Jacob Ari Labendz

Establish double counting of courses between concentrations (ether minors or majors)

Courses which fill requirements of both a major and a minor may be counted towards the completion of both the major and the minor, up to but not to exceed 1/3 of the total course hours of the minor. Autonomy to approve courses rests solely within the Department of the minor for each course that is to be considered for both the major and the minor. Formal approval will be conducted by Chairs upon consultation with expert faculty within their Department.

Response:

Approval and recommend the proposal with the following language:

Courses which fill requirements of both a major and a minor may be counted towards the completion of both the major and the minor, up to but not to exceed 1/3 of the total course hours of the minor. Autonomy to approve courses rests solely within the Department of the minor for each course that is to be considered for both the major and the minor. Formal approval will be conducted by Chairs upon consultation with expert faculty within their Department.

2) Extended undergraduate admissions test optional policy

Proposal:

Ms. Elaine Ruse

Extended Undergraduate Admissions Test Optional Policy Request

The Office of Student Enrollment and Business Services is requesting support from the Academic Senate Standards Committee to extend the Undergraduate Admissions Test Optional Admissions policy for the upcoming recruitment and application submission cycle that begins in June 2021 for the Fall 2022 and Spring 2023 semesters.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, the number of colleges requiring ACT and SAT tests has decreased. To remain competitive, we believe flexibility for the next admissions cycle is still necessary.

YSU's current Test Optional Policy is available for students who have AND have not taken the ACT/SAT tests and include the following:

A review of grades received from 9th – 11th/12th grade years in core high school classes (English, math, science, social science, and foreign language, if taken).

ACT/SAT scores that are submitted will only be used if they positively influence the decision to admit so when submitted ACT/SAT are low, they are not considered in the decision-making process.

Response:

Carried by the Committee approve and recommend as presented by Elaine Ruse

3) Blanket residency request for Geol 48XX

Proposal:

Dr. Jeff Dick

Offer blanket residency for Geology field course.

Response:

Carried by the Committee approve and recommend as presented by Jeff Dick/Biran Smith

4) Change to prerequisite requirements

Proposal:

Dr. Tom Wakefield

Eliminate the absolute requirement of prerequisites for 3700 and 4800 courses

Response:

Approval and recommend the proposal with the following language:

3700 and 4800 Courses: may carry prerequisite(s) in the discipline or in a justifiably related area; the faculty who teach in the program have autonomy to retain, add or remove prerequisites to support academic rigor needed for all courses.

A single member of the strongly opposes the language with concerns that the curriculum process needs to be upheld and secured.