

MINUTES

Academic Standards and Events Committee

Meeting of January 20, 1994

Present: C. Anderson, K. Blankenship, T. Bodnovich,
D. Decker, R. Hoover, P. Schuster, S. Tingley

1. Meeting called to order 12:00 noon.
2. Minutes of November 16 meeting approved.
3. **Plus/Minus Grading.**
R. Hoover reported that he has collected a number of articles on plus/minus grading and compiled a listing of Ohio schools and their respective grading systems. He will send copies of this material to all committee members. Hoover will assist in revising the survey with this information.

T. Bodnovich distributed a tentative schedule for the plus/minus grading project. Another task, "Notify Senate", was added. Bodnovich will make a verbal announcement of the committee's investigation of plus/minus grading.

TASK	DEADLINE	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Revise Survey	Jan 27	R. Hoover
Notify Senate	Feb 2	T. Bodnovich
Mail Survey	Feb 3	
Compile Results	Mar 3	
Obtain Information from Enrollment Services	Mar 3	
Review Results & Make Recommendation	Mar 10	All members
Prepare Report	Mar 30	
Submit To Senate	Apr 6	

Committee members should consider which tasks they would like to work on.

4. **Commencement.**
Bodnovich reported that he has contacted Dr. Mapley, Associate Provost, regarding rumored changes to commencement. Bodnovich distributed Mapley's written response, which explained that Mapley had met with an ad hoc committee on commencement. Bodnovich will invite Mapley to share the ad hoc committee's ideas on

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commencement with the Academic Standards & Events committee, tentatively on Feb. 3. As per Senate By-Laws, the committee firmly believes that it should rule on any changes to commencement.

5. Incomplete Grades.

The Senate Executive Committee has requested the committee to investigate the use of the incomplete grade. Specific concerns include the potential for an unlimited amount of time to complete coursework, the number of signatures required for assigning an incomplete grade, and the requirement that the process be initiated by a student. For the next meeting, Jan. 27, (1) C. Anderson will research the current policy and the forms used for incomplete grades and (2) Dr. Brothers, Dean of A&S, will present additional information.

6. Credit By Exam.

The Senate Executive Committee has requested the committee to examine policy for credit by exam. Dr. Brothers, will present additional information at the next meeting.

7. American Sign Language.

Bodnovich distributed a draft of a report on University recognition of American Sign Language as a foreign language. There was consensus that the report should be presented in its current form to Senate.

8. Next meeting will be

Thursday, January 27
12 noon to 1 p.m.
Kilcawley Center - Cardinal Room

Agenda: Incomplete Grades
Credit By Exam

9. Meeting adjourned 12:45 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Tom Bodnovich,
Computer & Information Sciences

Academic Standards & Events Committee

Report On American Sign Language

1-20-94

At the request of the Chair of the Academic Senate, the Academic Standards and Events Committee has examined the University's current offering of a course sequence in American Sign Language (ASL).

The committee recommends that students who successfully complete the course sequence in ASL (501, 502, and 503) be given credit toward the satisfaction of the University's foreign language requirement.

The committee makes this recommendation based upon:

(1) current Ohio law, and (2) current University practice.

Current Ohio law, as per Ohio House Bill 216 which became effective June 13, 1990, states that "American Sign Language is hereby recognized as a foreign language, and any state institution of higher education may offer a course in American Sign Language. An undergraduate student who successfully completes a course in American Sign Language is entitled to receive credit for that course toward satisfaction of an undergraduate foreign language requirement of the state institution of higher education where the course is offered." - State Universities - General Powers (section 3345.09)

Effective Fall 1993, the department of Foreign Languages began offering an elementary sequence in ASL. This sequence of courses was approved by the University Curriculum Division on April 15, 1993, and subsequently was approved by Academic Senate on May 5, 1993. A review of Senate Minutes indicates that there was no mention that this course sequence would apply toward satisfying the

University's foreign language requirement, even though this has become the current practice. In some instances this has led to confusion, as some faculty have not been aware that ASL counts toward satisfying the foreign language requirement.

This recommendation does not restrict an individual academic program from requiring proficiency in specific foreign languages when this is deemed appropriate for the given program. In other words, an academic program should be permitted to have a foreign language requirement which is more specific than the University's requirement.



Academic Standards & Events Committee

Youngstown State University / Youngstown, Ohio 44555-0001

TO: Members of the Academic Standards & Events
Committee

FROM: Tom Bodnovich, *Tom*
Chair, Academic Standards & Events Committee

DATE: January 14, 1994

SUBJECT: Meeting
Thur., Jan. 20, 1994, 12:00 P.M. to 12:50 P.M.
Kilcawley Center, Room 2057

Agenda

1. Revisions and Administration of Plus/Minus
Grading Questionnaire
2. Report on Commencement Changes
3. Investigation of Incomplete Grades
(requested by Senate Executive Committee)
4. Investigation of Credit By Exam
(requested by Senate Executive Committee)

CC: Virginia Phillips,
Chair of Academic Senate
Library (Circulation File)