

MINUTES

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

) April 12, 1995

Present: Brothers, Funk, Hugenberg (chair), Krishnan, Kudav, Morrison,
Schuster, Tingley

Absent: Anderson, Wess (student)

Excused: Hoover

Hugenberg announced he is going to meet with Harold Yiannaki and Tom Doctor regarding the problems converting to a plus/minus grading system -- if such a recommendation was to be made by this Committee (April 25). Hugenberg announced he wrote a letter to Ms. Williams explaining the Committee's position regarding repetition of courses in which the student received a passing grade. Hugenberg stated he would like to take a recommendation (or at least a report) to the Academic Senate on plus/minus grading during the June meeting.

) A discussion of the draft statement regarding deficiencies ensued. Krishnan offered two policy statements regarding the courses taken to satisfy high school deficiencies. There was agreement that courses taken at YSU to meet high school deficiencies should receive college credit -- except where college credit is restricted through the course descriptions. The discussion separated English and mathematics requirements because of their different situations at YSU. Everyone agreed with the draft statements for English and mathematics. There was lively discussion of how to count deficiencies in the areas of natural science, social science, fine arts, and/or foreign language. A question of whether or not YSU would be stating, in actuality, that these deficiencies don't really exist if we count them in the general education requirements was raised. The discussion followed along two solutions to the problem: [1] to count these courses in elective hours or [2] to count these courses in the general education requirements. There was discussion of degree programs in which there are no elective hours available for the student (engineering, music education, etc.). The committee finally agreed to the following statement: "*Students with deficiencies in natural science, social science, fine arts, and/or foreign language will satisfy these deficiencies by taking appropriate courses which will count as part of the general education requirements or electives in their degree program.*" The appropriate Dean would determine how to count these courses in a particular college and/or degree program. Brothers will take this agreement to the Dean's Council for discussion. The Committee will take the Dean's Council counsel and decide on a specific recommendation for the Academic Senate.

) There was discussion of academic minors. Brothers and Morrison pointed out that the College of Arts and Sciences has, among themselves, developed a set of recommended minors for their programs. Hugenberg suggested that this kind of listing would be a tremendous asset to the student selecting a minor, the advisor working with a student on a minor, and for the chair who has to sign the student's senior sheet. The Committee decided to recommend to the Senate that department faculty develop a "recommended" minor for students interested in minoring in their department. This recommended minor should be printed in the University Catalog. This is not a change in university policy -- only a strong recommendation to assist the university community.

) Remaining agenda: [1] completion of discussion of deficiencies; [2] the issue of student enrolled hours permitted before a Dean's signature is required; [3] plus/minus grading; [4] experiential learning; [5] credit by exam.