

ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1951, 11:15 - 12:00

Present: Beckman, Dykema, Ellis, Miller, Westenfield, Wilcox, Worley, Zellers.

1. Mr. Wilcox moved that the chairman be authorized to appoint two subcommittees to consist of faculty members not on the Academic Standards Committee; these subcommittees would attempt to carry out the Committee's motion of December 13, 1950 concerning examination procedure. Seconded by Mr. Westenfield and unanimously approved.

Note: Two subcommittees have been appointed and the members have accepted: Mr. Cohen, Mr. Harkinson, Mrs. Mills; Mr. Reilly, Mr. E. B. Smith, Mr. Yozwiak.

2. The present system of determining point averages was discussed and it was noted that an F may sometimes hurt a student's point average less than a D. It was felt, however, that the possible injustice was mathematically too slight to warrant a change. Mr. Worley moved to keep the present system. Seconded by Mr. Ellis and unanimously approved.
3. Mr. Worley moved that the catalog editor be authorized to incorporate in the text of the Catalog the note on Page 65 of the 1950-51 Catalog concerning the amount of work expected for a semester hour of credit, and that he be authorized to expand and illustrate the passage. Seconded by Mr. Wilcox and unanimously approved.
4. Points 4 and 5 of the agenda could not be discussed because of lack of time. The committee will meet again at 11:15 a.m. Wednesday, March 14 to discuss these and related matters.

K. W. Dykema, Chairman

February 20, 1951

Copy for English Office files:

There will be a meeting of the Academic Standards Committee on Wednesday, February 28 at 11:15 in Accounting Building 202-3. The following matters require consideration:

1. Is it permissible for the chairman of the Committee to appoint to sub-committees faculty members who are not also members of the Committee? It would expedite the carrying out of the motion of December 13, 1950, if the subcommittee to study examination procedure was made up of other faculty members.
2. Does the present method of determining point averages sufficiently penalize the student who gets an F? Under the present method a student with a higher point average lowers it less with an F than with a D.
3. Should the Catalog define more fully the meaning of "hour" and "semester hour"? The only statement at present is the note on page 65.
4. Should the Committee consider the points presented in the following statement?

Wisdom comes only from experience (in the widest sense), our own or somebody else's. Most of the experience that leads to wisdom is sad and dangerous; so the more wisdom we can get from the experience of others, the better for us. For nearly 3000 years Western Civilization has been evaluating its experiences and recording its conclusions for later generations to read if they will. Are we at Youngstown College giving our students enough opportunity to grow wiser by learning what the best minds of the past have to offer? The 1951 second semester schedule lists over 400 classes (not courses) for the College of Arts and Sciences; of these not more than two dozen are primarily concerned with acquainting the students directly with the work of the great minds of the past. Perhaps fifty to sixty others may in part and at second hand deal with the great thinkers of the past. Even in the liberal arts unit of the college, then, more than 80 percent of the classes largely ignore the wisdom of the cultural tradition. The addition of the classes in the other units (about 270) reduces the number of classes concerned directly with the wisdom of the past to about three percent, and of course a large proportion of our students are not expected to take even one of these. Should we not require our students to have at least a little direct acquaintance with a few of the great minds that make our cultural heritage?

5. Should the Committee reconsider the matter of overloads in other units of the College?

Not all these matters can be settled at one meeting; so there will be other meetings on Wednesdays if that time is convenient.

K. W. Dykema

KWD/jaa