

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

Academic Standards and Events Committee
Tuesday, May 8, 1990 - 4:00 P.M.

Members Present: Aboul-Ela, Burden, Byo, Edwards, Owens
Pusch, Reid, Richley

Members Absent: Conroy, Driscoll, Stephens, Welsh

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM by the chairperson.
2. Dr. Harold Yiannaki, Registrar, attended the meeting.
3. Dr. Yiannaki noted that some professional agencies, nursing specifically, require certain courses to be traditionally graded. Other universities are critical of CR when a student applies for admission. Some universities equate the NC grade to F and average it in to the student's gpa when the student attempts to transfer or seek admission to graduate school. Thus, the CR/NC option does create problems for students. However, Dr. Yiannaki noted that the registrar's office will write letters explaining the grading option to outside agencies upon request. The committee reaffirmed its prior decision to submit the report and motion to Senate. Dr. Owens agreed to represent the committee at the Senate meeting.
4. Dr. Yiannaki reported that approximately 400 students graduate each summer versus approximately 340 each fall. The degree completion is posted to students' transcripts during December so that the lack of a fall graduation does not restrict the graduate's employment options.
5. Dr. Yiannaki noted that the Bursar's office would have little difficulty with refunds if only 3 days were allowed for adding courses during 5 week summer sessions. Additionally, he noted that the greatest class addition activity takes place during the first three days so a change would have little effect. Dr. Yiannaki did state that a deadline based on each individual course would be very difficult to implement. He suggested that any change be restricted to a flat number of days beyond the start of the quarter for all 5 week classes.
6. The committee then discussed the Honors Policy. The committee decided that any modification would create more problems. The particular problem brought to the attention of the committee could be more effectively solved by the Provost. It was decided that the chairperson write a letter to Provost Gillis suggesting that he write a letter to the student involved.
7. The committee decided to seek more input on the possible change from a summer commencement to a fall commencement. The chairperson will ask each Dean to survey the department chairs for input.
8. It was moved to leave the length of time to add a course in a five week summer session as it is. The motion passed.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 5:09 PM.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Bernard T. Gillis, Provost

FROM: Dr. Jean Aboul-Ela, Chairperson, Academic Standards and Events Committee *JE*

DATE: May 30, 1990

SUBJECT: April 25, 1990, letter from Donna K. Gardner concerning class honors.

The Academic Standards and Events Committee recently reviewed the April 25 letter from Donna K. Gardner concerning Class Honors. The Committee understands and appreciates the circumstances which led to Donna not having been selected to receive class honors. By virtue of her accelerated academic load, Donna's class standing was at the junior level at the time honors were determined even though she is only in her second calendar year of studies. She was evaluated as a junior (correctly) and did not qualify for honors. Her main points are, had she been treated as a Sophomore she would have been awarded honors and will have only three opportunities to compete for honors during her four years of study.

Upon reviewing the matter, the Committee suggests that the policy should not be revised in an attempt to recognize unique circumstances since they are unpredictable. It suggests that unique cases be specifically addressed through the authority of your office to provide waivers in justifiable cases.

The committee respectfully recommends that a letter be sent from your office to Donna Gardner recognizing her very outstanding achievements. Her record demonstrates that she is a very intelligent and dedicated student and certainly these qualities will be recognized by future employers, universities, and peers. The committee believes that your letter would be a means of recognizing her achievements without causing more concern of unfairness among students which might occur if the honors policy were changed.

tc

cc: Academic Standards and Events Committee
Dr. Beaubien, Chair Academic Senate ✓

MEMORANDUM

TO: Academic Deans

FROM: Jean Aboul-Ela, Chair Academic Standards and Events Committee

DATE: May 31, 1990

SUBJECT: Possibility of deleting the summer commencement ceremony and adding a commencement at the end of Fall quarter.

On recommendation by the Public Ceremonial Committee, the possibility of dropping summer commencement and substituting a December commencement is being considered. Since such a change would affect the whole University community, this committee requests that you survey your department chairs for input. Some of the negative comments have included the possibility of inclement weather in December and the nearness of the holidays. Numbers of graduates during recent quarters are included for your information:

YSU GRADUATES

Summer 1988	416
Fall 1988	344
Winter 1989	387
Spring 1989	868
Summer 1989	372
Fall 1989	334
Winter 1990	423
Spring 1990	<u>910*</u>
TOTAL	4,054

*Applicants for Spring 1990 graduation.