

MINUTES

Academic Standards and Events Committee

Meeting of February 4, 1994

Present: C. Anderson, K. Blankenship, T. Bodnovich,
R. Hoover, H. Kim, S. Martinek, S. Russo,
S. Tingley

Guest: Gordon Mapley

1. Meeting called to order 12:00 noon.
2. Minutes of January 27 meeting approved.
3. Credit by Exam.

Bodnovich distributed documentation.

4. Incomplete Grades.

Consensus that an incomplete grade should automatically convert to F after some time period. Most colleges have such a policy as per data collected by Anderson.

What is a reasonable time period for automatic conversion to an F? Members favored a one year period.

Length of period should be preprinted on form requesting an incomplete grade.

Faculty should be able to select a shorter deadline. Space should be specifically designated on incomplete grade form for such a date.

Incomplete grades cannot be changed after a student graduates. A student's GPA cannot change after graduation.

Faculty and/or student should be able to initiate an incomplete grade.

Anderson and Bodnovich will review information on incomplete grades from other schools and present a revised policy and revised form at the next meeting.

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5. At 12:15 Gordon Mapley presented the following information on commencement:

At the request of Student Government and President Cochran, Mapley met with an ad hoc committee to make commencement more personal. The thrust was to make commencement a more memorable event.

The ad hoc committee recommended:

1. The names of all graduating students be read.
2. All graduating students receive a diploma cover, cross the stage, shake hands with the dean, and be photographed.
3. Hood graduate students.

In addition, honor students will now stand and be recognized as a single group.

Colleges will still have their own separate ceremonies, but they will no longer read names nor have students cross a stage.

These recommendations were tested during summer commencement. Special training was conducted for marshalls and readers. Based on test results, a spring commencement ceremony of the same type would take 3.5 hours.

Mapley has fine-tuned the ceremony so that it is estimated that a spring commencement ceremony will take 2 hours 15 minutes with these changes.

A survey of student who graduated during the summer ceremony indicated that a strong preference for the changes.

The committee requested a copy of the survey, information on how the survey was administered, the number of students surveyed, the selection criteria for respondents, the response rate, etc. Mapley indicated that this information could be obtained from Student Government. [Subsequent to this discussion, Anderson volunteered to contact Scott Schulick for this information].

Kent and Akron have multiple ceremonies. Mapley stressed that Student Government and President Cochran desire a single ceremony because they view this as a University celebration and all students should celebrate together.

Commencement is particularly important at YSU, since many graduating students are first generation graduates.

Mapley will be forming another ad hoc committee to investigate pageantry. Two of our committee members will be appointed to this committee.

6. The committee thanked Gordon for his time and effort; he left at 12:45 p.m.

7. COMMENCEMENT. Discussion continued.

Students should be given input in selecting the commencement speaker. Perhaps even a student could be the speaker.

Faculty and students must have more comfortable chairs if any changes are made to lengthen the ceremony. More space must be provided between faculty chairs.

8. PLUS/MINUS GRADING.

Hoover will distribute information on plus/minus grading and convene a meeting of the plus/minus grading subcommittee. Subcommittee members are: Anderson, Blankenship, Hoover, Kim, Schuster, and Tingley.

9. Next meeting will be

Thursday, February 10
12 noon to 12:50 p.m.
Kilcawley Center - Room 2057

Agenda: New Business:
General Education Requirements

Old Business:
Incomplete Grades
Commencement

10. Meeting adjourned 1:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Tom Bodnovich,
Computer & Information Sciences