

Academic Standing Committee

Minutes of the meeting on December 13, 2021

Present: Amish Khalfan (Academic Affairs), Erika Correa (ACE), Shannon Lund (Admissions), Caterina Almendral (ELA), Lilla Tóke (English), Andrew McFarland (Humanities), Alexandra Rojas (Library), Janet Gonzalez, Chair (Natural Sciences), Derwent Dawkins (Registrar), Kyle Hollar-Gregory (Social Science), and Ana Mora (The Wellness Center).

Meeting start time: 2:30 pm via Zoom

Meeting end time: 3:31 pm via Zoom

New Member Welcome

1. The Committee welcomed new members: Shannon Lund (Admissions), Nicole Lyle (Business), and Ana Mora (The Wellness Center).

Review of the WU/F Policy for the College Catalog

1. The Committee discussed the new WU policy, and the policy change from a punitive GPA impact (0.0) to no GPA impact.
2. The Committee looked at the WU policy currently in the catalog and proposed revisions based on the new policy. The Committee discussed catalog revisions, including implementing a question-and-answer format to address the numerous WU questions raised. The Committee decided to explain the WU grade in the catalog and Frequently Asked Questions related to the WU/F on the ASC website.

Original Catalog Text Followed by Proposed Additions:

WU is assigned to a student who has attended at least one class, completely stopped attending at any time before final exam week, and did not officially withdraw. (Original Text)

Effective Fall 2021, the WU grade will not have a punitive impact on a student's GPA. The WU grade will continue to denote Unofficial Withdrawal. A grade of "WU" is to be assigned to students who participated in an academically related activity at least once, completely stopped attending at any time before the culminating academic experience of the course, i.e., final exam, final paper, etc., and did not officially withdraw.

Note: Students are strongly advised to consult with financial aid and academic advisors.

3. The Committee discussed the following WU questions.
 - a. Is there a WU cut-off date?
 - i. There is no cut-off date.
 - b. When is it appropriate to assign a WU?
 - i. An instructor should assign an F to a student who completes the course (an earned grade). If the student does not show up for the final, and/or complete

the final project, a student would receive a WU. However, there is discretion of when an instructor would assign an F versus a WU based upon what the instructor has in the syllabus.

- c. How will the WU affect GPA?
 - i. The WU no longer impacts GPA. Formerly, the WU punitively impacted GPA.
- d. How will the WU affect Financial Aid?
 - i. The Committee is seeking clarify and cannot currently answer this question.
 - ii. The Committee discussed adding a note to the policy that students should speak to Financial Aid and Academic Advisors to see how the WU will affect their Financial Aid.
- e. How does the WU vary from the F for GPA and Financial Aid impact?
 - i. GPA:
 - 1. Formerly: the WU and F impacted the GPA as 0.0.
 - 2. Currently: the WU has no GPA impact, and the F = 0.0
 - ii. Financial Aid:
 - 1. Formerly: F counts as completed grade and Financial Aid will continue to pay. The WU counts as attempted credit and thereby impacts Financial Aid.
 - 2. Currently: The Committee is looking into if there are any Financial Aid changes related to the new policy.
- f. What is the purpose of the WU (e.g., extended date, and why not use a W to indicate the new policy change to no grade impact to avoid confusion/ misinterpretation during transcript review)?
 - i. Although the WU is no longer punitive by grade, the WU remains as the current system because it indicates student character patterns (e.g., many WUs indicate student decision to leave classes rather than persisting to the end of the courses). Transcript review of the WU will need to consider the date of the WU (pre-fall 2021 there was GPA impact, and from fall 2021 forward there is no GPA impact).

ACTION ITEM: The Academic Standing Committee will continue to seek clarity for the financial aid impact of the WU policy. The revised WU policy will be sent to Dean Miller, and then to the Senate.

Review of the Uniform Grading Policy for the Senate

- 1. The Committee discussed changes to the grading policy, which included the timeframe for a grade change and filing appeals, and the WU new policy language. The Committee decided to table the discussion and seek feedback from the Appeals Committee, Academic Affairs, and the Department Chairs.

ACTION ITEM: The Academic Standing Committee will seek feedback about changes to the uniform grading policy from the Appeals Committee, Academic Affairs, and the Department Chairs.

NC Policy Revision

1. The Committee discussed item #5 of the prior NC policy revision. The Committee agreed that the form and policy would be updated (with a link to the form included on the ASC website) to read:
 5. An NC grade from College Now or Early College Initiative programs prior to matriculation at the college does not count towards the NC cap as outlined in 2.

ACTION ITEM: The Academic Standing Committee will update the policy.

Next Meeting: January 24, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Caterina Almendral, ELA Representative