

Academic Standing and Honors Committee

Annual Report for the 2007-2008 Academic year

The ASH committee for the 2007-2008 academic year comprised of 5 faculty members representing different academic units and representatives from other parts of the university. The voting committee members were: Eddie Cheng (Mathematics and Statistics, chair), Suha Kridli (School of Nursing), Mohammad Bazaz (School of Business Administration), Dan Ring (Kresge Library), and László Lipták (Mathematics and Statistics). In Fall 2007, Xiadong Deng (School of Business Administration) filled in for Mohammad Bazaz. The non-voting committee members were Tamara Machmut-Jhashi (Designee of Vice President for Academic Affairs); Charles Clark (Director, Academic Skills Center); Dawn Aubry (Designee of Vice President of Student Affairs). Jocelyn Bennett-Garraway (Assistant Director, Academic Skills Center), Aniesha Mitchell (Retention Coordinator, Academic Skills Center) and Carol Burns (Temporary Retention Consultant, Academic Skills Center) were three other participants at the meetings. There were three student-members on the committee. They were Jameelah Muhammad, Jordan Twardy and Christopher Goeth. In addition, Gale Habashneh (Academic Skills Center) provided administrative assistance.

The Senate's charge to the committee is as follows:

To review, propose, and implement university policies concerning academic probation, dismissal, and readmission; to present to the Senate the Registrar's list of candidates for graduation with any recommendations for deletions or additions to the list; and to review and transmit to the Senate nominees for University honors.

The activities of the ASH Committee this year centered mostly on deliberating on dismissal appeal cases and taking appropriate actions. A total of three regular meetings were held during the year. These committee meetings were held to consider appeals for Summer 2007, Fall 2007 and Winter 2008 semesters. One special meeting was held in March 2008. The meeting was called due to the recent changes of spring and summer semesters. Since the new system consists of one summer semester (with smaller modules), the committee decided dismissals will not be sent out in Spring.

Dismissal details for the 2007-20078 academic year:

1. Summer 2007: There was 1 case and was approved.
2. Fall 2007: There were 13 cases and 6 of them were approved.
3. Winter 2008: There were 37 cases and 16 of them were approved.

Continued with the practice in the past, we used a secured online system for managing dismissal appeals. This system was used by the committee for all deliberations during the 2007-2008 academic year. This system helped contain cost for the university since it became unnecessary to print several copies of student appeal documents for committee members. In addition, it shortened deliberation time for cases as committee members had already posted their comments online.

The committee had previously decided claims made in the appeals must be backed up by some evidence, otherwise they will not count in the committee's deliberations. The committee continued with this guideline. After careful considerations and fruitful discussions, the language regarding documentation in this issue was rewritten in the appeal form.

The chair will like to thank all the members for their dedicated services this year.

Submitted by:

Eddie Cheng
Chair, Academic Standing and Honors
Committee, 2007-2008 Academic year
(May 20, 2008)