

MEMORANDUM

October 4, 1972

TO: Fred W. Obear, Chairman of the Steering Committee

FROM: Howard R. Witt, Chairman of the Academic Policy Committee *HRW*

SUBJECT: Report on Activities of the Academic Policy Committee

The activities of the Academic Policy Committee during the 1971-72 academic year may be placed in four categories:

- a) New departments and programs
- b) Degree requirements
- c) Procedures
- d) No action items

New Departments and Programs

1. Department of Speech Communication: A proposal to establish this department was received from the College of Arts and Sciences. The proposal was reviewed and a motion to establish such a department was recommended to the University Senate. The motion was approved by the Senate on April 12, 1972.
2. Department of Learning Skills: A recommendation was received from the College of Arts and Sciences to establish a department to instruct students in English composition. The committee recommended expanding the charge of the proposed department to include development of all academic skills. The motion to create the Department of Learning Skills underwent some amendment and was finally passed by the Senate on April 26, 1972.
3. Evening College Program: A report entitled "Proposed Structure For Evening Program" was received from the Evening College Committee. It was reviewed by the APC and a motion to receive the report, approve its recommendations, and authorize the implementation of the program was introduced in the Senate. The motion was approved on May 2, 1972.
4. Accelerated Degree Program: The President and Provost requested that the APC consider an accelerated program that would permit talented high school graduates to complete a baccalaureate in three academic years. The APC developed the framework for an accelerated degree program and placed it before the University Senate. It was approved on April 12, 1972.

Degree Requirements

1. General Degree Requirements: The APC reviewed the University-wide degree requirements, introduced certain modifications and brought them to the Senate for approval. These were amended on the floor and passed on March 28, 1972.
2. Program Provisions: The APC developed a set of provisions that must be fulfilled by all programs leading to a baccalaureate. The provisions were approved by the Senate in an amended form on March 28, 1972.
3. Multiple Degrees: The APC developed a set of requirements that a student must meet to receive a second baccalaureate from Oakland University. The requirements were approved by the Senate on March 28, 1972.
4. Writing Proficiency Requirement: The College of Arts and Sciences Assembly recommended replacing the freshman exploratory requirement by a writing proficiency requirement. A motion to make this a part of the University requirements was introduced in the Senate and was approved on April 20, 1972.
5. Degree Requirements for College of Arts and Sciences: The College of Arts and Sciences assembly submitted revised degree requirements. These were reviewed and transmitted to the Senate in the form of three motions dealing with the requirements of the major, the general education requirements, and the writing proficiency requirement. The motions were approved on April 26, 1972.
6. Degree Requirements for the School of Engineering: The School of Engineering submitted revised degree requirements. These were reviewed and transmitted to the Senate. A motion to approve the requirements passed on May 3, 1972.

Procedures

1. Credit by Examination: The APC developed a procedure to be followed for students wishing to obtain credit by examination. The motion dealing with this procedure was approved in the Senate on May 3, 1972.
2. Repeat Course Rule: The APC revised the repeat course rule to include credit by examination. The motion covering the revision passed the University Senate on May 3, 1972.
3. Exploratories and Colloquia: Dean Simmons asked the APC to recommend changes in descriptions for exploratories and colloquia in view of the changes in the general education requirements. The motion on this matter was approved by the Senate on May 3, 1972.

4. Course Numbers: With the exception of UC courses, the course numbers 000 to 099 were reserved for those courses designed to enrich academic skills. Approved by the Senate May 3, 1972.

No Action Items

1. Armed Forces Experience: The possibility of granting credit for armed forces experience was considered, but the APC decided not to act on this matter.
2. University Honors: A review of the requirements for University Honors was requested by the Registrar. The APC felt that this was a matter for the Academic Standing and Honors Committee and referred it to that committee.
3. Restricted Enrollment in UC Courses: A request was received to restrict enrollments in UC courses. Many students needing the courses to satisfy general education requirements were being shut out by students taking the courses as free electives. In view of the changing general education requirements no action was deemed necessary.
4. Administrative I Grade: The Ombudsman suggested creating an administrative I grade to cover situations where a grade is delayed for reasons having nothing to do with student performance. Consultation with the registrar convinced the committee that such a grade is unnecessary.

Coming Year

In addition to items that will be forwarded to the APC the following matters will be considered:

1. The grading system.
2. The course credit structure.
3. Conditions on transfer credits with particular attention to junior colleges.
4. Reports from Committees on Instruction of the Schools and Colleges.

Last year much of the committees time was devoted to considering program changes and many matters of a more or less routine nature. For the forthcoming year it is planned to give careful attention to guidelines for the growth of existing programs and for the introduction of new programs.

HRW:jp