



Undergraduate Grades and Academic Standing Committee

Introduction

University Standing Committees

Annual Report for 2005 - 2006

Members

Policy

Susan M. Vladika, Coordinator of Academic Progress (Chair)

Descriptions

Dr. Chaogui Zhang, Mathematics Department, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Alphabetical List

Dr. Mary Ann Wagner, Science Department, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Reporting List

Mr. Edward Rushton, Art Department, College of Creative Arts and Management

Ms. Mary Beth Holmes, Communication Arts Department, College of Creative Arts and Management

Members

Sister Gail Cabral, Psychology Department, College of Education and Human Development

Dr. Brad Janey, Counseling and Psychology. Department, College of Education and Human Development

Annual Reports

Mr. Mike Freund, School of Social Work, College of Health and Human Services

Ms. Shelby Yeager, Health and Physical Education Department, College of Health and Human Services

Dennis M. Kelly, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

Ann Boland Chase, Registrar

Bob Reese, Director of Undergraduate Admissions

Andrea DiMattia, Director of Residence Life

Meghan Cruciani, Coordinator of Undergraduate Academic Advisement

Sister Agnes Mary Devitt, Director of ACT 101 Program

By invitation of Chair to second spring meeting on grants and scholarships:

Mr. Stanley Skrutski, Director of Financial Aid

Sister Jane Snyder, Assistant. Director of Financial Aid

Meetings

Fall meeting - January 2, 2006

Spring meeting - May 24, 2006

Spring Financial Meeting - May 25, 2006

Accomplishments

I. Fall Meeting—2005-2006: January 2, 2006

A. Proposals, Discussions and Decisions—

(1) At the May 2005 meeting the following proposal was made: *For students, the invitation to appeal is inherent in the fact that they receive a letter reducing or losing grant or scholarship.* Proposal passed. At the Fall 2005 meeting, the following addendum was made: *Appeals should be made to The Associate Vice-President for Enrollment Management, Mr. Dennis Kelly.* Proposed addendum passed.

(2) It was proposed that if students do not pass Writing Skills (Engl 160) in the summer then they would not be accepted to the University for the fall. Students need to pass Writing Skills with a “C” or greater before they can go on. Proposal passed.

(3) A discussion ensued on ACT 101 and the number of semesters a student is allowed in the grant. Sr. Agnes Mary Devitt, Director of the ACT 101 program stated that students have four (4) semesters with ACT 101 and they need to meet with ACT 101 staff throughout this period.

(4) A question arose on the standards for coming off “Unclassified”. Ann Boland Chase, Registrar stated that 2.25 is the standard requirement for (non-Transfer students); 2.50 is the standard for Transfer students.

(5) It was proposed that when a student has “I and “X” grades at the time of the Grades and Academic Standing Committee Meeting, resolution of the student’s grades should take place before a letter is sent out to the student. The rationale for this proposal is that a student’s grades might resolve to an academic/financial condition other than the one in place at the time of the Grades and Academic Standing Committee Meeting. Proposal passed.

B. Catalog Guidelines*—(applies to both Fall and Spring Meetings)

(1) Semester Warning—Whenever the quality point average for a semester is less than 2.00, but the cumulative quality point average is 2.00 or better, the student will be warned.

(2) Major Warning—Whenever the major quality point average falls below 2.33, a student will be placed on major warning. Some major programs require a higher QPA. Individual program descriptions provide specific information.

(3) Probation—A student will be placed on probation if a QPA of 1.00 is not achieved in any given semester or whenever his/her quality point average falls below 2.00. Probation is temporary; it is, therefore not included in the student’s academic record.

(4) Repeated (Continued) Probation—If a student’s cumulative quality point average increases and, though still below 2.00, indicates possibility to attain the standards required for graduation, the student may be continued on probation for another semester.

(5) Dismissal—Upon recommendation of the Committee on Grades and Academic Standing, the appropriate dean will dismiss:

- a. a student who fails to improve her/his cumulative quality point average at the end of a semester or more on probation.
- b. a student whose cumulative quality point average increases, though still remaining below 2.00, if the student’s academic record indicates little potential for attaining the academic standards required for graduation. (Academic dismissal is recorded on the student’s academic record).
- c. a student who has had previous but inconsecutive semesters on probation.
- d. a student who fails to achieve a 1.00 in any two semesters.
- e. Students may also be dismissed for other academic reasons, such as academic dishonesty.

*From the 2005-2007 Marywood University Undergraduate Catalog.

C. Decisions—

(1) The committee recommended three (3) dismissals. Of those, the students’ deans allowed the students to present any mitigating circumstances by a January 13, 2006, after which the students’ dismissals were confirmed with a letter by the dean to the students. All three (3) students were dismissed. This is a breakdown of the dismissals by college:

	CLAS	CCAM	CHHS	CEHD
Recommended Dismissals	2	1	0	0
Actual Dismissals	2	1	0	0

(2) The following breakdown of students put on probation, continued probation, major warning (q.p.a. of 2.33) and semester warning, is presented below. A separate major warning for Education majors is sent to students by the Education Department. This major warning is based on a 3.00 q.p.a. in major and 3.00 q.p.a. overall. Also, a separate major warning for Nursing majors is sent to students by the Nursing Department. This major warning is based on a q.p.a. of 2.50 in major. In addition, a separate major warning for Nutrition and Dietetics majors in the class of '09 is sent to those students by the Nutrition and Dietetics Department. Grant warning and scholarship warning letters for the 2005-2006 academic year were also sent out based on student overall q.p.a. This is the breakdown: (Note: Some students fall into more than one category. The numbers below reflect the academic conditions placed on the students receiving them):

Probation	Cont'd Probation	Major Warning	Semester Warning	Grant Warning	Scholarship Warning
59	6	34	41	76	42

(3) There were also students coming off probation, major warning, semester warning, grant warning and scholarship warning that the committee recommended sending a congratulatory letter to, as follows: (Note: Some

students may have come off the condition they were on in the previous semester but may have another condition placed upon them for this Fall 2005 semester. They would not be sent a congratulatory letter and their number would not be reflected in the table below):

Congratulations off Probation	Congratulations off Major Warning	Congratulations off Semester Warning	Congratulations off Grant Warning	Congratulations off Scholarship Warning
1	3	8	25	8

D. Unclassified students will be reported on separately, by Ann Boland Chase, Registrar.

II. Spring Meeting—2005-2006: May 24, 2006

A. Proposals and Updates—

(1) It was proposed that the information regarding students who have had Committee recommended dismissals prior to the current semester, be attached to the information that Committee members receive prior to the Grades and Academic Standing Committee Meeting. Rationale: Committee members would have a better perspective on a student's use of their time to improve their g.p.a. and academic record. The assumption is that they would have been allowed to continue to matriculate by their Dean after the original Grades and Academic Standing Committee decision to dismiss. Proposal passed.

B. Decisions—

(1) The committee recommended eleven (11) dismissals. Of those, the students' deans allowed the students to present any mitigating circumstances by June 8, and June 9, 2006, after which the students' dismissals were confirmed with a letter by the dean to the students. Nine (9) students were actually dismissed. This is a breakdown of the dismissals by college:

	CLAS	CCAM	CHHS	CEHD
Recommended Dismissals	4	4	1	2
Actual Dismissals	4	4	1	0

(2) The following breakdown of students put on probation, continued probation, major warning (q.p.a. of 2.33) and semester warning, is presented below (Note: Some students fall into more than one category. The numbers below reflect the academic conditions placed on the students receiving them):

Probation	Continued Probation	Major Warning	Semester Warning
21	12	42	46

(3) There were also students coming off probation, major warning and semester

warning that the committee recommended sending a congratulatory letter to, as follows (Note: Some students may have come off the condition they were on in the previous semester but may have another condition placed upon them for this Spring 2006 semester. They would not be sent a congratulatory letter and their number would not be reflected in the table below):

Congratulations off Probation	Congratulations off Major Warning	Congratulations off Semester Warning
3	7	9

(4) There are students receiving “X” and “I” grades for Spring 2006 that the committee could not make a decision on for academic or financial determination due to the temporary nature of these “Incomplete” grades. Once the grades are resolved, this Chair will send the appropriate notification in the form of a letter to the student informing them of the final academic and financial condition that will be placed on them for Fall 2006. There are 22 students with these temporary grades at the time of this report.

C. Unclassified Students will be reported on separately, by Ann Boland Chase, Registrar.

III. Spring Financial Meeting - 2005-2006: May 25, 2006

A. Proposals and Updates--

(1) A discussion of the Financial Aid matrix previously developed by this Committee, took place. Some felt that the amount of money taken was a retention issue.

(2) A discussion of the amount of time a freshmen can spend with academic conditions against her/him, took place. It was suggested that students be given two years from the time they start as freshmen to make academic progress. If academic progress is not made, then dismissal will be recommended for the student.

(3) A discussion on whether there was a need for another meeting in the spring on financial determinations, took place. Many of the processes for Grades and Academic Standing have been streamlined: All of the reports have been transferred from AS400 to Compleo prior to the Committee meeting. This makes the Grades and Academic Standing reports easier for the Committee to read and gives this Chair the ability to insert proposed decisions into the document for committee member review prior to the meeting. With the Financial Aid matrices for students, the work on financial decisions can be accomplished before the meeting by applying the matrix. A new network folder for all the various types of letters to students (using various combinations of academic conditions and financial determinations) has been set up to essentially make the letter process more automated and ultimately get the letter to the student in a more expeditious manner.

(4) The committee decided that clearly a second meeting in the spring for financial determinations would not be necessary. The academic and the financial components could be covered in one meeting. Therefore, in the future, the Grades and Academic Standing Committee will only meet twice yearly: at the end of the fall semester and at the end of the spring semester.

(5) It was proposed that students who have a g.p.a. requiring review by the Grades and Academic Standing Committee in the spring semester in terms of their financial award, should receive a “Warning” only. Rationale: Students who have a g.p.a. requiring review by the Grades and Academic Standing Committee in the fall semester get a “Warning” not a “Reduction”. There is no reduction in grant or scholarship. It was felt that students reviewed in the spring receive a more severe penalty by the fact that there is only one meeting per year on financial determinations. Students reviewed for the first time in the spring are unduly penalized because any financial award they may have is subject to reduction because of their g.p.a. The Committee believes that another semester under a “Warning” would be warranted in this situation. Proposal passed.

B. Decisions—

(1) The breakdown of the financial determinations is as follows: (Note: Some students also fall into categories of accompanying academic conditions. The numbers below reflect the financial conditions placed on the students receiving them):

Grant Warning	Grant Reduction	Lose Grant	Scholarship Warning	Scholarship Reduction	Lose Scholarship
57	37	1	20	13	1

(2) In addition, there were students congratulated for coming off grant warning and scholarship warning as follows: (Note: Some students may have come off the condition they were on in the previous semester but may have another condition placed upon them for this Spring 2006 semester. They would not be sent a congratulatory letter and their number would not be reflected in the table below):

Congratulations Off Grant Warning	Congratulations Off Scholarship Warning
13	3

Submitted by

Susan M. Vladika, Chair
 July 20, 2006

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Dolores M. Filicko, IHM
Secretary of the University

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Last update July 20, 2006

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