

Academic Policies and Practices Committee Annual Report (2023-2024)

- I. Membership
 - a. Composed of seven elected members from voting faculty, one appointed ex-officio member from the Office of Student Success, and one appointed SGA representative:
 - Billy Armour (SGA)
 - Lisa Chin (PH-SAS, Co-Chair)
 - Ricky Guerra (Student Success)
 - Curtis Holland (SY-SAS, Co-Chair)
 - Mohamed Khalefa (M/CIS-SAS, Secretary)
 - Youngjoo Kim (CP-SAS)
 - Lisa Lewin (SOB)
 - Christos Noutsos (BIO-SAS)
 - Nicole Sieben (SOE)
- II. Activities
 - a. Monthly Meetings
 - i. Third Thursday of every month
 - ii. Worked on resolutions, discussed how to modify the Academic Standing Hearings (scheduling procedures, addressing concern about reinstating too many students who may not be ready to return to coursework)
 - iii. Organized and facilitated Academic Standing Hearings in August 2023 and January 2024; currently planning the June 2024 hearings
 - b. Resolutions
 - i. Revised Resolution on including a statement about the use of “Artificial Intelligence” by students to complete coursework in the University’s Academic Integrity Policy, which was approved by the Faculty Senate in February 2024.
 - ii. Solicited feedback from Department Chairs about potential concerns with the University’s current “Dual Major Policy”; then wrote a Resolution on changing that policy in accordance with suggestions of faculty. The Resolution calls for the creation of two distinct policies—one for Double Majors, and one for Dual Degrees—and that the new policies are communicated clearly to the campus community once completed. A vote on the Resolution is expected to occur at the May 17, 2024 meeting of the Faculty Senate.
 - c. Academic Standing Hearings discussions
 - i. Discussed under what circumstances students who miss the deadline to schedule a hearing should be granted an exception, and allowed to speak with the Chair(s) directly to appeal their suspension or dismissal after the

hearings end. It was eventually decided that students will be allowed to schedule a meeting past the deadline only if there is documentation of a medical or family emergency, in the interest of fairness, minimizing burden on the Registrar, and preventing problems that arise when students are reinstated after the start of classes and have trouble building their schedule.

- ii. Members met with Assistant Provost Cris Notaro about administration's concern that too many students—especially those on dismissal—are being reinstated by Academic Standing Committees. The committee generally agreed with the need to take into greater consideration the negative impact that reinstating students who have had multiple subsequent failing semesters can have (such as with respect to future financial aid eligibility, time they need to adjust their circumstances to be better prepared to prioritize their studies, etc.). The committee is currently working with Dr. Notaro on drafting a set of guidelines on the importance of considering such matters, that will be provided to all those serving in future Academic Standing Committees.

d. Academic Standing Hearings

- i. There were 44 student hearings held in August 2024 and 128 hearings held in January 2024. Most hearings were headed by one or both the APPC Co-Chairs; in August, one session of hearings was headed by Nicole Sieben. Each session tends to run 3.5 hours, with 10 student hearings per session (or thereabouts). The Co-Chairs also scheduled the hearings and communicated the decisions to the Registrar.

e. Nomination and Election of new (Co)Chair within APPC

- i. Because one of the Co-Chairs will be completing his term in APPC, there will be a nomination and election of a new Chair (or Co-Chair) in the committee's final meeting of the 2023-24 Academic Year.