

4-4-1985

Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #84-85-7: nonmatriculating Students

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE
BILL

Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Edward D. Eddy

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #84-85-7: Nonmatriculating Students

_____ is forwarded for your consideration.

2. The original and two copies for your use are included.
3. This BILL was adopted by vote of the Faculty Senate on April 4, 1985 (date).
4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Governors, completing the appropriate endorsement below.
5. In accordance with Section 10, paragraph 4 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on April 25, 1985 (date), three weeks after Senate approval, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Governors for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Governors, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.

April 5, 1985
(date)

Frank M. White
Frank M. White
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

ENDORSEMENT

TO: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

FROM: President of the University

Returned.

- a. Approved _____.
- b. Approved subject to final approval by Board of Governors _____.
- c. Disapproved _____.

4/29/85
(date)

Edward D. Eddy
President

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND CALENDAR COMMITTEE
REPORT #84-85-7

NONMATRICULATING STUDENTS

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the following revisions to the University Manual pertaining to nonmatriculating students:

- A. Revise sections 8.19.10 through 8.19.17 of the University Manual to read as follows (former section numbers are in parentheses next to new section numbers):

8.19.10 Nonmatriculating Students. A nonmatriculating student is one who is enrolled for courses at the University but has not been admitted to University College or a degree-granting program by the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid or the Dean of the Graduate School or one who has been academically dismissed from a college of the University (see 8.25.10 ff. for regulations pertaining to academically dismissed students). Although visiting students, including those on exchange programs, are considered as nonmatriculating for reporting purposes, they are otherwise excluded from regulations applying to nonmatriculating students (see 8.14.10).

8.19.11 (8.19.13, 8.19.15, 8.19.17) With the exception of students dismissed for academic reasons, all undergraduate, nonmatriculating students (i.e., those who have not earned a baccalaureate degree) enrolling for courses on the Kingston campus shall be the administrative responsibility of the Dean of University College; all undergraduate, nonmatriculating students registering only for continuing education courses shall be the administrative responsibility of the Dean of the College of Continuing Education.

8.19.12 (8.19.12, 8.19.13) These colleges will provide advising services, referring students to advisers in the department of their potential major when appropriate. Students may not register for courses in impacted programs without the written permission of the department chair, and their schedules must be approved by their dean who will determine whether they meet course prerequisites or other requirements. Nonmatriculating students shall be seated last in all courses according to procedures determined by the Registrar.

University Library be accorded the highest priority in University plans for physical expansion and strategic development, and provided a comprehensive rationale for this recommendation.

If administrative officials establish this priority, we hope that the Library's plan for development can be advanced swiftly through the external review process for inclusion among the educational funding items submitted to Rhode Island voters in the referendum in November, 1986. It is absolutely essential, we believe, that funding for the expansion of the Library be approved in this set of bond issues in order that construction be completed by 1990, thereby averting the impending space crisis in the Library.

The Library staff is developing a programmatic plan for Library operations for the twenty year period 1990-2010. This plan will spell out the implications for physical expansion and facilities development. It is expected this plan will be completed by late spring.

Vice President Ferrante has agreed to take the committee's recommendation to other administrative officials for their consideration and to ask Vice President Petrocelli to initiate the periodical review of the University's strategic development priorities. Once the Library's programmatic plan is delivered, the Business and Finance staff can provide the necessary cost estimates for construction.

Capital Funding

The most often recurring theme of previous Library Committee reports is the inadequacy of the financial support allocated to the University Library. In attempts to increase capital funding, our committee supported the Faculty/Staff Fund Drive (contributions from faculty and staff were, this past year, matched 2 - 1 by the Alumni Association), asked the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to endorse the University's special request for restrained funding for 1985-86 (if approved by the State Legislature, this request will provide \$260,000 in additional capital funding for the Library) and recommended to Vice President Ferrante that the University establish a policy under which a portion of overhead funds from research grants would be assigned to the Library for acquisition and support activities.

The latter is felt to be an important direction for policy development. Overhead funds are provided by granting agencies to compensate for activities which support research. Since the Library is vital to research productivity, we believe it is owed a fair share of such funding, and recommended that this principle be expressly incorporated as an University policy. Vice President Ferrante agreed to bring this recommendation to the attention of other University administrators and members of the Council of Deans.

Planning

For the remainder of the year, our committee intends to devote its efforts to planning activities for the coming academic year, especially work to be done during the fall semester. We have recently been joined by enthusiastic undergraduate and graduate student

8.19.13 (8.19.16) [renumbering only; concerns the Graduate School's responsibilities.]

8.19.14 (8.19.11) Nonmatriculating students may enroll as full-time or part-time students. A post baccalaureate student shall not register for more than 15 credit hours per semester. Credit limitations may be imposed on previously dismissed students by their academic dean (see 8.25.12) and on students seeking admission by the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid. All other nonmatriculating students shall enroll for no more than 18 credit hours per semester.

8.19.15 (8.19.14) At the end of each semester the dean will review the academic records of all nonmatriculating students for whom he or she is responsible. Previously dismissed students and students who applied for but did not meet regular admissions requirements may enroll for no more than two semesters provided that they earn a minimum of 2.0 gpa in each of these semesters. At the end of the two semesters, they must either apply and be admitted or readmitted as matriculating students or successfully petition to the dean and the Scholastic Standing Committee of the College to which readmission is being sought for an exception to the two semester limitation. Further registration for these students will otherwise be blocked by the Registrar on the recommendation of the dean. The failure of other nonmatriculating students to meet the standards of the University for satisfactory progress (usually a 2.0 average) may result in their being denied future enrollment. Nonmatriculating students making satisfactory progress will be encouraged to become matriculating, whenever appropriate.

Existing sections 8.19.10 - 8.19.17 are attached as APPENDIX A.

- B. Revise sections 8.25.10 through 8.25.16 of the University Manual to read as follows:

8.25.10 Reinstatement of Matriculating Undergraduate Students. A student who has been dismissed shall not be reinstated to matriculating status until after a period of one academic year and then only upon recommendation of the Scholastic Standing Committee of the college or school in which registration is desired.

8.25.11 Students who have been academically dismissed are the administrative responsibility of the dean of the college to which they wish to be readmitted. Those who wish to take courses as nonmatriculating students shall be provided advising services by the dean who will refer students to advisors in their anticipated major when appropriate. Credit and/or course limitations may be imposed on previously dismissed students by their academic dean.

8.25.12 At the end of each semester the dean will review the academic records of each student allowed coursework under these provisions. Previously dismissed students may enroll for no more than two semesters provided that they earn a minimum of 2.00 gpa in each of these two semesters. At the end of two semesters they must apply for readmission and be readmitted as matriculating students or successfully petition to the dean and Scholastic Standing Committee of the college for an exception to the two semester limitation. Students who are neither readmitted nor granted a time extension by petition will be denied further enrollment in the University.

8.25.13 - 8.25.18 (8.25.11 - 8.25.16) Renumbering.

Existing sections 8.25.10 - 8.25.16 are attached as APPENDIX B.

Rationale:

Following is the rationale presented to the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee by Dean Strommer:

In the Spring of 1984, the Acting Dean of the College of Continuing Education Tom Pezzullo asked the Dean of University College to assume responsibility for nonmatriculating students registering at the Kingston campus. This request arose from previous discussions and a mutual recognition that CCE staffing at Kingston did not provide the necessary and desirable academic support services for these students and that with its corps of academic advisers, University College seemed to be the logical administrative home for them. Many of these students are in fact dismissed University College students who are already returning to the college for advice.

As the staff of University College considered assuming this responsibility, several things became clear:

1. Distinctions should be made among the various nonmatriculating students on the undergraduate level. These appear to be the categories among which we should distinguish:
 - a. Visiting students, including those at URI on our exchange programs (NSE, Study Abroad, New England Universities, etc.). Matriculating students elsewhere, they are like our matriculating students in every way except for our reporting purposes, so legislation designed to cover nonmatriculating students should not apply to them.
 - b. Previously dismissed students. Although legislation clearly did not have these students in mind, they are the largest group of nonmatrics on the Kingston campus. Examination of transcripts reveals students' attending

as nonmatriculants for years, continuing their unsatisfactory performance (one student, for example, attended full-time for six semesters and two summer terms after being dismissed and did not once earn a 2.0 average). Students denied admission who chose to enroll as nonmatriculating students pose similar problems. Some have come close to or have even met graduation requirements without ever having been admitted as matriculating students.

College agree that we wish to have Manual legislation in place so that we can handle these students according to their best interests and in a way that maintains the quality of the University.

Members of the Committee:

Joan Clegg, PED
Leonard Gerber, FSN
Veronica Hanke, student
Lewis Hutton, LAN
Leland Jackson, ELE
Joseph Marasco, student
Paul McNamara, MSC
Richard Roughton, HIS, Chairperson
Christian Wittwer, THE
John F. Demitroff, Registrar, *ex officio*

c. The occasional student. These students, ranging from someone who wishes to take a course or two to sharpen a skill or to broaden his or her knowledge to the older student who is testing his or her ability to become a degree-seeking student, are the ones for whom the legislation appears to have been developed although they actually constitute the smallest number in the nonmatriculating group. Their work should, we feel, be monitored so that those who do not have degrees will be encouraged to pursue them, if appropriate, and those who are unable to meet the University's academic standards will be denied future enrollment.

2. Because of the differences in these groups of nonmatriculating students, the legislation appropriate for one group of nonmatriculating students has created several serious problems and potentially could create many more when applied to a different group.
3. Some of these students gain admission to courses in impacted areas which is unfair to degree-seeking students who are closed out.
4. Students who have earned a poor record academically sometimes persist in taking courses repeatedly despite continued failure (one is in the 18th semester), making their readmission or admission impossible. To allow their continued enrollment is ethically questionable.
5. Adequate monitoring of the progress of nonmatriculating students and blocking the registration of those who are not performing satisfactorily will cost the University money. During the first semester in which the new policies go into effect, particularly, a considerable amount of revenue will be lost. The University needs to anticipate this and plan for it.
6. Assuming the responsibility for these students will increase the workload of the University College advisors and staff by more than what the numbers imply (and they imply a 5 to 7% increase) because these students tend to be more problematic than the average matriculating students.
7. Before assuming responsibility for the Kingston-based undergraduate nonmatrics, the dean and staff of University

APPENDIX A

8.19.10 Nonmatriculating Students. A nonmatriculating student is one who is enrolled for courses at the University but has not been admitted to University College or a degree-granting program by the Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid or the Dean of the Graduate School. Students who have been academically dismissed from a college of the University may enroll as nonmatriculating students. This applies to all nonmatriculating students except visiting students (see 8.14.10).

8.19.11 Nonmatriculating students may enroll as full-time or part-time students; however, a post baccalaureate student shall not register for more than 15 credit hours per semester and all other nonmatriculating students shall enroll for no more than 18 credit hours per semester. The number of terms in which a student may enroll as a nonmatriculating student is unlimited.

8.19.12 Nonmatriculating students shall be seated last in all courses according to procedures determined by the Registrar. Nonmatriculating students must have fulfilled all prerequisites for any course(s) in which they enroll.

8.19.13 Departments or colleges may prohibit nonmatriculating students from enrolling in specific courses or programs. In all other courses, individual instructors may decide whether or not a nonmatriculating student is qualified to take the course.

8.19.14 Provisions of the University Manual that describe criteria for probation and dismissal (8.23.10-13) do not apply to nonmatriculating students.

8.19.15 All nonmatriculating students (except as noted in 8.19.16) shall be the administrative responsibility of the Dean of the College of Continuing Education.

8.19.16 The Graduate School shall have administrative responsibility for nonmatriculating students in the following categories: 1) persons holding a bachelor's degree who wish to earn initial or permanent certification to teach or to fulfill other state certification requirements; 2) persons who have applied to the Graduate School for degree status but are required to do remedial work, complete prerequisites, or enroll for a trial period; 3) postdoctoral students; 4) persons pursuing nurse practitioner or other graduate certificates.

8.19.17 All academic departments and deans' offices shall provide academic counseling for nonmatriculating students taking credit courses or those who wish to pursue a degree. The College of Continuing Education shall provide counseling for students taking non-credit or CEU courses and act as liaison and referral agent for students taking credit courses.

APPENDIX B

8.25.10 Reinstatement of Matriculating Undergraduate Students. A student who has been dismissed shall not be reinstated to matriculating status until after a period of one academic year and then only upon recommendation of the Scholastic Standing Committee of the college or school in which registration is desired.

8.25.11 A student who has been reinstated after dismissal for academic reasons may be classified as a conditional student or as a probationary student. A conditional student shall be subject to regulations 8.25.12.-14. For regulations governing probationary status see 8.25.10-13.

8.25.12 Students on conditional status must earn at least a 2.0 average in each of two conditional semesters. For part-time students, accumulation of twelve credits shall be equivalent to one semester. Students not earning the necessary minimum grades for retention in the University during the conditional period shall be dismissed at the end of the first semester in which they are deficient.

8.25.13 At the end of the two conditional semesters, if the preceding minimum grade requirements have been met, the Scholastic Standing Committee shall direct the Registrar to examine the student's record prior to readmission and designate pass credits for those courses for which a grade of "C" or better was received. No credit shall be given in courses in which grades of "D," "F," or "U" were received. While the permanent record shall continue to show previous grades, the calculations of the minimum number of quality points necessary for graduation shall be based on grades earned after the time of the conditional reinstatement.

8.25.14 Students shall be allowed only one conditional reinstatement.

8.25.15 During the period of the student's separation from the college in which the student was enrolled, any course taken with the prior permission of the student's dean in which the student has earned a "C" or its equivalent or better shall be accepted by the Scholastic Standing Committee of the school or college in which the student is registered and shall be given transfer credit on the student's permanent record if reinstated.

8.25.16 The student seeking reinstatement shall submit a written request to the Scholastic Standing Committee of the college to which the student plans to return. If in the Committee's judgment, incorporating the evidence from any course work taken elsewhere as specified in 8.25.15, the student may reasonably be expected to do satisfactory work, it shall allow the reinstatement.