

9-26-1991

## Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #1990-91-5: Section 8.54.20 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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### Recommended Citation

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THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island  
FACULTY SENATE  
BILL  
Adopted by the Faculty Senate

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar  
Committee Report #1990-91-5: Section 8.54.20 of the UNIVERSITY  
MANUAL

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 September 26, 1991  
(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 October 17, 1991,  
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.

September 27, 1991  
(date)

Leonard M. Kahn  
Leonard M. Kahn  
Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

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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 \_\_\_\_\_.

October 10, 1991  
(date)

Robert L. Carothers  
President

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
Kingston, Rhode Island

FACULTY SENATE

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND CALENDAR COMMITTEE  
REPORT #1990-91-5

SECTION 8.54.20 OF THE UNIVERSITY MANUAL

I. ACADEMIC PROGRESS FOR FRESHMEN

A. Recommendation

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends approval of the following new section 8.54.20 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

8.54.20 Reporting of Records: Academic Progress for Freshmen. Reports of S (Satisfactory), S- (Marginal), or U (Unsatisfactory) shall be made to the Registrar on the prescribed forms not later than mid-semester. The Registrar will prepare for the appropriate instructor a roster listing every properly registered freshman student in every section. The instructor shall submit a report to the Registrar for each student whose name appears on the roster. These reports will be mailed by the Registrar to the students' local address with a copy forwarded to University College. These reports are intended to alert students to their academic status and to aid in advising, but will not become part of the students' permanent academic record nor figure in their quality point average.

B. Background and Rationale

1. Our current "early warning system" had been reasonably effective in identifying those beginning students who are in academic difficulty, but many students are missed by this informal system.
2. Since students may be dismissed after one semester at URI, some sort of progress report is prudent both in terms of fairness and the law.
3. Mid-semester grading for freshmen is an increasing common practice at colleges and universities around the country, a practice which recognizes the freshman year as a period of transition, encourages students to take prompt corrective action, promotes good advising by making some data on the first semester available before

planning the second, and provides the assessment and feedback that beginning students need. This legislation is an attempt to achieve the positive effect of mid-semester grading while emphasizing the tentative nature of the report and its usefulness for advising by separating it from the standard system.

Members of the Committee:

Patricia Jensen, LSC  
Alfred Killilea, PSC  
John Long, EDC  
Norbert Mundorf, SPE  
Sandra Saunders, DHY  
Richard Weeks, MKT, (92), Chairperson  
John F. Demitroff, Registrar, ex officio  
Mark Kenyon, student  
Ahmad Tahajod, student