Report of the Committee on Academic Standards and providing for recognition in a "Dean's list" of freshmen and sophomores who, in a given semester, achieve QPA of 3. and of juniors and seniors who achieve a QPA of 3.20.

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_bills

Recommended Citation
University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "Report of the Committee on Academic Standards and providing for recognition in a "Dean's list" of freshmen and sophomores who, in a given semester, achieve QPA of 3. and of juniors and seniors who achieve a QPA of 3.20." (1966). Faculty Senate Bills. Paper 142.
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/facsen_bills/142

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Bills by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.
UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND  
FACULTY SENATE  

BILL  

Adopted by the Faculty Senate  

TO: President Francis H. Horn  
FROM: Chairman of the Faculty Senate  

1. The Attached BILL, titled Report of the Committee on Academic Standards and providing for recognition in a "Dean's List" of freshmen and sophomores who, in a given semester, achieve a QPA of 3.0 and of juniors and seniors who achieve a QPA of 3.20, 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 March 17, 1966.  

4. After considering this bill, will you please indicate your approval or disapproval. Return the original or forward it to the Board of Trustees, completing the appropriate endorsement below.  

5. In accordance with Section 8, paragraph 2 of the Senate's By-Laws, this bill will become effective on April 7, 1966, unless: (1) specific dates for implementation are written into the bill; (2) you return it disapproved; (3) you forward it to the Board of Trustees for their approval; or (4) the University Faculty petitions for a referendum. If the bill is forwarded to the Board of Trustees, it will not become effective until approved by the Board.  

March 23, 1966  
(date)  

Elizabeth W. Crandall  
Chairman of the Faculty Senate  

ENDORSEMENT 1.  

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate  
FROM: President of the University  

1. Returned.  

2. Approved    Disapproved.  

3. (If approved) In my opinion, transmittal to the Board of Trustees is not necessary.  

(date)  

Form approved 11/65  

(over)
ALTERNATE ENDORSEMENT 1.

TO: Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded.
2. Approved.

(date) President

ENDORSEMENT 2.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: Chairman of the Board of Trustees, via the University President.

1. Forwarded.

(date) /s/

President

(Office)

ENDORSEMENT 3.

TO: Chairman of the Faculty Senate

FROM: The University President

1. Forwarded from the Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

(date) President /s/

Original received and forwarded to the Secretary of the Senate and Registrar for filing in the Archives of the University.

(date) Chairman of the Faculty Senate /s/
Report of Committee on Academic Standards

The Committee recommends that the following regulations be adopted to recognize outstanding academic achievement among undergraduates.

Recommendation

Full time undergraduate students that have achieved certain levels of academic excellence in any semester shall be honored at the end of that semester by inclusion of their names on a "Dean's List." Freshmen and sophomores will qualify by achieving a 3.00 quality point average, while juniors and seniors will need a 3.20 quality point average. The Registrar shall compile lists of students that have obtained the required quality point average and make them available for publication. The appropriate academic deans may wish to write letters of recognition to the parents of the students on their respective lists and to the students concerned, as a gesture of congratulation.

Historical Action

On May 20, 1965 the Committee on Academic Standards recommended to the Faculty Senate:

1. That a certificate denoting scholastic honors be awarded each regular student who obtains a quality point average of 3.00 or above for an academic year. These certificates will ordinarily be presented on Honors Day each October.

2. That a "Dean's List" shall be established to recognize publicly the academic achievement of students. It shall include the names of students that have obtained a quality point average of 3.00 or above during a single semester. A student's name shall be placed on the list within two weeks of the end of the semester in which the quality point average of 3.00 was achieved.

Discussion of the above recommendations in The Senate resulted in their being referred back to committee with respect to the belief that certain parts of the Honors Section (Sec. 22, pp. 69-70) 6th edition of the University Manual were related to points 1 and 2 above and had been omitted from the 7th edition of the Manual.

The committee was charged by The Faculty Senate (memo of October 19, 1965) to investigate the statements in both the 6th and 7th editions of the Manual pertaining to honoring students for academic achievement and to determine if omission of certain parts of Sec. 22, 6th edition of the Manual had occurred.

Discussion with Dr. R. Harrison and Dr. N. Rorholm indicated that the omission of parts a and b of Sec. 22, 6th Edition of the Manual were the intent of the committee that drafted the "Honors Program" but apparently, this point had eluded formal action by The Senate.
Current Action

In consideration of our previous recommendations, the committee examined part b, Section 22, 6th edition of the University Manual and found that:

1. The system awarded scholastic honors annually on the basis of a cumulative quality point average, several months after honors were achieved by the students concerned.

2. The method for determining who shall have scholastic honors produced unrealistic and non-standard goals of achievement; i.e., the quality point average used to recognize honors students could vary from one year to the next by its method of calculation.

Our conclusions were that the regulations concerning yearly honors as indicated by part b, Sec. 22, 6th edition of the University Manual are inadequate because they fail to recognize a student's academic achievement when it occurs and provide an annually varying standard for determining who shall receive honors.

We are of the opinion that recognition of the scholastic achievement of students at the University from all undergraduate classes should be pursued with more vigor. Honoring students for an academic performance that is distinctly above average should encourage them to continue their good work and also stimulate students who are marginal to this level of performance to make greater academic efforts.

In the opinion of the committee, maximum stimulus to students issues from rapid recognition of student achievement on a semester basis.

The committee believes that two standards of achievement for the recognition of outstanding scholarship were in the best interests of all students. With regard to such variables as adjustment to the University community, mastery of independent study and the nature of courses basic to continuing study, the freshman and sophomore years appear as most difficult. To compensate for this, the committee chose 3.00 as the quality point average to be attained by freshmen and sophomores named to the "Dean's List."

A grade point requirement of 3.20 for junior and senior students was selected as a result of the committee's attitude toward achievement in these academic years. A majority of students have considerable leeway in their junior and senior years for selecting electives of personal interest and most are into their major areas of study. With the above in mind, the committee believed that a higher level of achievement should be required in order to recognize superior ability and make proper awards for it.

Now, to the method of implementing recognition. At the end of each semester the Registrar will compute the quality point average of each student and prepare lists for those students in each college that have achieved averages illustrating their superior academic performance. These lists, traditionally called "Dean's Lists", will be sent to the appropriate academic deans. The committee suggests that each dean prepare letters of recognition for the parents and/or guardians of the students concerned. In addition the committee presumes that the University's Public Relations officials will adequately publish the names of students on the Dean's Lists in media best suited for the purpose.
The above report is submitted by

J. Corless  H. Farnum  W. Smith  J. Kupa - Chairman
F. Drews    E. Farrell  F. Woods