

Academic Standards Committee
Report to the College Academic Senate
May 22, 2008

1. At the April 4, 2008, meeting, discussion on the AH motion concerning the course substitution form was held. Generally the group agreed that all parties on the form should receive copies. The standard practice of obtaining the form from Counseling was supported as this allows a discussion of the implications/wisdom of the request. It is clearly the responsibility of the department/discipline to determine questions having to do with content. It was suggested that formal responses concerning the denial of the request be noted on the form and communicated to faculty members who initiate the request.
2. May 9, 2008 meeting:
 - a. Biology Placement Exam: Within the Biology Discipline, there have been concerns over the success rate for pre-nursing students in BIO1570 (Microbiology of Health and Disease) and BIO2630 (Anatomy and Physiology I) and problems with student retention related, at least in part, to problems with preparedness and a lack of prerequisites for these courses. The Curriculum Committee and College Academic Senate (April, 2008), with the support of the Nursing Discipline, approved the inclusion of a biology placement test as a prerequisite for these courses. The Biology Discipline, with Dean Berry, will be working on developing this test over the next year for use beginning Fall 2009. Testing implementation issues should be brought to CASSC. Release time should be awarded for development of this test.
 - b. A process, including a form which can be placed on Infomart, for bringing issues to the Academic Standards Committee is being worked on.
 - c. Although a question regarding transfer credit was brought to the committee, it was determined that there does not appear to be a problem with the current policy, and Dr. McCall, as Registrar, has the right to determine whether credit should be transferred from non-accredited institutions.
3. Future Meetings
 - June 6 – 10am, HL, WH371
 - 2008-2009 (tentative)
 - September 12, 1pm, DO, if possible (Leadership in the morning)
 - October 3, 10 am AH
 - November 7, 10am HL
 - December 5 (tentative), 10am OR
 - January 16, 10am RO/SF
 - February 6, 10am, AH
 - March 13, 1pm, DO (Leadership in the morning)
 - April 3, 10am, HL
 - May 1, 10am, OR
 - June 5, 10am, RO/SF