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Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #98-99-2: Changes to Chapter 8 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
FACULTY SENATE

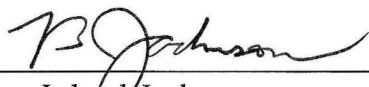
Serial Number #98-99--25

TO: President Robert L. Carothers

FROM: Chairperson of the Faculty Senate

1. The attached BILL, titled Academic Standards and Calendar Committee Report #98-99-2: Changes to Chapter 8 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 May 13, 1999.
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 June 3, 1999 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.

May 14, 1999
(date)


Leland Jackson
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 ____.


5/24/99
(date)


President



UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND
Kingston, Rhode Island
FACULTY SENATE

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND CALENDAR COMMITTEE
REPORT #98-99-2
CHAPTER 8 OF THE UNIVERSITY MANUAL

April 26, 1999

*Amended by the Faculty Senate on May 13, 1999

At the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee's meetings of April 7 and April 21, 1999, the Committee considered changes to the UNIVERSITY MANUAL and now presents the following recommendations to the Faculty Senate for approval.

*A. 8.22.40 **RETURNED TO COMMITTEE** (Senate Action #98-99--8)

B. 8.33.13

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends that section 8.33.13 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL be amended to read as follows (changes in **boldface**):

8.33.13 **A course instructor may require students, who are absent from the first and second class meetings of a course and who do not notify the instructor of their intention to attend future class meetings, to drop his/her course. Students are responsible for officially dropping the course through the office of the registrar. Students who are required to drop a course and fail to drop the course will be assigned a grade of "Enrolled, No Work Submitted" (NW).**

Rationale: This section allows faculty to delete students from their class roster for nonattendance. Although section 8.33.13 states that students are still obligated to drop their course, many students believe that instructors will drop them from their courses if they do not attend the first two class meetings. When students make this assumption and instructors choose not to drop students, the students are often unaware that they are enrolled until after the drop and/or refund date. Ultimately, they petition the registrar to change their effective drop date and, in some cases, grade. This requires the student to obtain a letter from their instructor identifying the student's non-attendance. This poses an unnecessary workload for the registrar's office, bursar's office and faculty. It also poses a problem for instructors who are unable to take attendance and consequently, verify a student's non-attendance.

To eliminate this ambiguity and reduce the workload created by section 8.33.13, the Registrar's Advisory Council recommended, and the Academic Standards and Calendar Committee agreed, that the wording be changed to permit faculty members to give away a student's seat for non-attendance and deny registration. Furthermore, it makes the student entirely responsible for officially dropping the course. If a student does not drop a course, the instructor will be able to issue a "NW" grade.

C. 8.51.27

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends the addition of a new section 8.51.27 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL to read as follows:

8.51.27 A student scheduled for three final examinations in one day shall take on that day the examinations for the two courses that met first and second in the week during the semester. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange a time with the instructor of the third class to take the final examination at a time that would not result in the student taking three finals in one day.

Existing section 8.51.27 will be renumbered as 8.51.28.

Rationale: The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee concurs with the Registrar's Advisory Council that the customary practice at the University of Rhode Island regarding students scheduled for three final exams in one day should be formalized and included in the UNIVERSITY MANUAL.

D. 8.56.12

The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee recommends the addition of the following new section 8.56.12 of the UNIVERSITY MANUAL:

8.56.12 Grade changes for grades received before graduation will not be permitted after graduation unless the change is based on clerical or procedural errors and the change is received and posted to the student's record by the last day of classes of the semester following the term in which the student graduates.

Rationale: The Academic Standards and Calendar Committee agrees with the Registrar's Advisory Council that a student's academic record should be sealed upon graduation. Both committees recognize that there should be a period following the end of the term in which the student is graduating to accommodate late changes to an academic record provided such changes are due to clerical or procedural errors.