

FY-12 ACADEMIC POLICIES & PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Approved by SenEx: 6/20/2011

Approved by University Senate: 9/8/11

Spec. Chg. #3 and #4 approved by SenEx 9/20/11

- For further information or to schedule a meeting with SenEx to discuss charges or the committee's work, contact SenEx chair Megan Greene at mgreene@ku.edu. (*Note: Be sure to use this email address; there are two "Megan Greene" in Outlook*)
- Please send minutes of each meeting to University Governance, at govern@ku.edu, for posting to the Governance web site.
- Please send recommendations for changes to the University Senate Code, the University Senate Rules and Regulations, and the Faculty Senate Rules and Regulations as early in the academic year as possible. Because of the waiting periods involved in changes to these documents, recommendations proposed after spring break may remain pending the following fall semester.
- Please send a report of the committee's actions on each of the charges, as well as any recommendations the committee wishes to make concerning charges or membership for the following academic year, to University Governance, at govern@ku.edu. Please include the names of committee members and submit the report by April 1, 2012. If the committee still expects to conduct business after April 1, please submit a report by April 1 and later submit any addenda that may be appropriate.

Standing charges:

1. Be prepared to respond to SenEx requests for reviews of academic-policy issues. (ongoing)
2. Monitor proposals for academic program restructuring and discontinuance, hold hearings, and follow other procedures in accordance with Article VIII of the University Senate Rules and Regulations. Report issues or recommendations for action to SenEx. (ongoing)

Specific charges:

1. Examine loopholes in the Incomplete Policy (USRR 2.2.3) and consider whether the policy needs to be amended. Report to SenEx by 11/1/11.
2. Consider identifying academic policies that are in the F.S.R.R. and would more appropriately be placed in the U.S.R.R. (This can be done at your discretion—it is more a matter of tidying up the rules and regulations than solving any pressing problem.) Please report action on this charge to SenEx by 4/1/12.
3. Investigate whether the deadlines for submitting changes to the online academic catalog could be extended. For example, changes must be submitted to the College on October 1st for the online catalog that "goes live" six months later in April. University Relations requires that catalog text from *all* of the schools be reviewed, approved, finalized and submitted to them by December 1st for the April catalog, which goes into effect as of the following fall academic semester (August). Proposals approved by the fall 2011 semester deadlines will take effect the following fall of 2012. Proposals submitted in spring 2012 would not take effect that upcoming fall (unless they are minimal changes) but would become effective for the fall 2013 semester
4. Consider whether the KU transcript should be "frozen" at the time of graduation, with possibly an appeal to the FacEx Appeals Committee for extraordinary exceptions. Review the background information below and consult with Assistant Vice Provost Cindy Derritt about the

procedural aspects of this issue. If appropriate, recommend new language for the USRR and forward to SenEx by 11/29/11.

Background: During a discussion of the course repeat policy at the 9/8/11 University Senate meeting, it was clear that members assumed that a student's undergraduate GPA as shown on the KU transcript at the time of graduation was final and not subject to change. However, a somewhat surprising email from Assistant Vice Provost/former University Registrar Cindy Derritt received following the Senate meeting indicated that "*the philosophy at KU has not been that the record is frozen at graduation.*" Following is the complete text of Ms. Derritt's email.

From: Derritt, Cindy

Sent: Friday, September 09, 2011 9:32 AM

To: Reed, Kathy

Cc: Herron, Marla Jean; Phillips, Sheri B.; O'Bryon, Kim; Turvey, Robert D

Subject: FW: Proposed Amendments to University Senate Rules and Regulations

As we discussed briefly on the phone while a snapshot may be taken for research purposes at the time of graduation, the philosophy at KU has not been that the record is frozen at graduation. Events such as grade changes, completion of incompletes, additional minors/majors etc. can (and have) occurred after a degree has been conferred, thus altering what prints on the transcript.

Other institutions do have a philosophical foundation that the record is frozen at the time of graduation and any work afterwards starts over with new total hours, grade point average, etc and that no changes are allowed to the pre-conferral work without a significant appeal process. If this is the philosophical framework from which KU would like to operate, several processes need to be reviewed as well as how we would need to change our business practices within the information system to accommodate this philosophy. This would likely be a 2 year project, I think for both the policy and system needs (perhaps longer if system modifications were needed).