

## Approved Minutes

### Faculty Senate Academic Standards & Policies Committee Meeting

February 13, 2019

GSB 215

12:00pm

**Present: Mary Wu, Edgar Adams, Gokhan Celik, Peter Alfieri, Minoo Tehrani (chair)**

#### Items on the agenda:

##### 1. Retention Advisors

Discussion: There were emails sent to students on probation with the subject: “ACADEMIC PROBATION - WILL ALERT DEAN AND SEND LETTER HOME:” According to this email that was cced to the faculty advisor of the student, student on probation was required to participate in the “Skill Enrichment Program (ASEP)” and be advised by one of the ASEP advisors. Since the student had failed to respond, the email with ALERT (as above) was sent to the student.

Checking on the situation, the initial email (beyond the Dean’s notification to student and academic faculty advisor) had gone to the student on January 23 asking the student to fill out an assessment form and to also stop by to see assigned ASEP advisor for any changes to the semester schedule and other assistance. According to this email, the ASEP advisors are from offices across campus. This email was not cced to the faculty advisor.

Apparently, the faculty advisors have been unaware that there is actually a package that students on probation need to fill out and ASEP advisors can advise them on the scheduling.

**The Committee recommends that emails to advise students on academic affairs by non-faculty advisors shall be cced to the faculty advisor. The package and any other support system to assist probationary students need to be shared with the faculty advisors and the schedule of students should not be changed without the assigned faculty advisor’s knowledge and approval. Any support provided to students on probationary status is welcomed. However, the line of communication is broken and the faculty advisors need to be part of any effort to assist probationary students regarding their academic standing.**

##### 2. Graduating Students’ Program Review

Discussion: In the past, the Graduating Coordinator sent an email to graduating students, which was cced to the faculty advisor highlighting courses needed to be completed for graduation. This practice has been abandoned. Such information now goes to the Dean's Office and student's home.

**The Committee recommends that the past practice be brought back.**

### **3. Insurance for International Students**

Minoo explained that in the past few years, International Exchange students coming from France have been billed for health insurance from \$1,200 to \$2,300, even though, students need to provide proof of insurance before coming to RWU. The reason for such a bill is that the insurance evaluator in each case had ruled that the insurance company carried by the French students are not recognized in the U.S. However, in these cases the ruling has not been correct. Every health insurance carried by French students are backed by a U.S. company and there is a US address, such as Aetna. Apparently, the Health Center is not involved in evaluation of international insurance companies anymore and evaluation of international insurance is conducted by an outside agency.

**The Committee recommends that the appropriate office on campus to consider this matter.**

### **4. Housing of International Students**

Minoo explained that in the 4-2-2014 Faculty Senate meeting, several issues regarding international students were discussed. One issue was about housing Saudi students in Providence. At that time, the matter was supposed to be looked into.

The issue is still the same as of 2019. The students from the Persian Gulf countries are recommended to stay in Providence and they are housed in Providence.

The Committee also discussed housing of other Asian students and if these students are housed on campus during freshman and sophomore years.

**The Committee requests this matter be looked into.**