

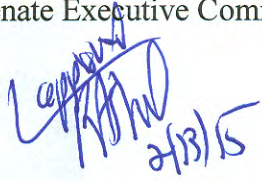
Georgia Southern University  
Intracampus Memo  
Office of the President

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<http://welcome.georgiasouthern.edu/president/>

TO: Dr. Patricia Humphrey Chair, Senate Executive Committee

FROM: Brooks A. Keel, President 

DATE: February 13, 2015

SUBJECT: **February 12, 2015, Faculty Senate Recommendation:  
Recommended changes to the "Academic Renewal Policy" and "Academic  
Standing Policy"**

Following review of the recommendation adopted by the Faculty Senate at the February 12, 2015, Faculty Senate meeting, as provided in your memo of February 13, 2015, I have approved the motion below.

**MOTION:**

The ASC moves that the following changes are made in the current GSU Academic Renewal Policy

- 1) that Academic Renewal shall be granted after a 3-year period of absence (5-year period in current policy)

- 2) that students may request Academic Renewal within one year of re-enrollment ("by the end of second semester of re-enrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first" in the current policy)

- 3) that Academic Renewal granted at any USG institution be honored by GSU ("The student must re-enroll at the same institution in which he/she experienced the problem" in current policy)

- 4) that "overall GPA (all GSU and transfer) will be used to determine if students are eligible for honors at graduation" (Academic renewal GPA in current policy)

And

- 5) that Exclusion 2 period of absence in the Academic Standing Policy be changed to 3 years (5 years in current policy)

Implementation date: upon approval by the Faculty Senate

**RATIONALE:**

The Board of Regents implemented changes to the Academic Renewal Policy at the University System level that went into effect on August 20, 2014. The Academic Standards Committee was charged with reviewing the GSU's Academic Renewal Policy and its compliance with the USG Policy. The recommendations included in the motion (above) are meant to align the GSU policy with the USG policy.

gm


c: Dr. Jean Bartels  
Dr. Diana Cone  
Ms. Candace Griffith  
Dr. Diana Sturges

Georgia Southern University  
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**OFFICE OF THE PROVOST  
AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

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TO: Dr. Brooks A. Keel, President

FROM: Dr. Jean Bartels, Ph.D., RN   
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: February 13, 2015

SUBJECT: **Faculty Senate Recommendation  
Academic Renewal Policy and Academic Standing Policy**

---

I recommend approval of the amended motion to align the Academic Renewal and Academic Standing Policies with the applicable Board of Regents policy changes that were considered at the February 12, 2015, Faculty Senate meeting.

JEB/gt

pc: Dr. Pat Humphrey  
Dr. Diana Cone  
Ms. Candace Griffith



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TO: Dr. Brooks A. Keel, President

FROM: Pat Humphrey (COSM), Chair, Senate Executive Committee

DATE: February 13, 2015

SUBJECT: **Recommended changes to the “Academic Renewal Policy” and “Academic Standing Policy”**

---

I am pleased to report that the Senate recommends approval of the amended motion presented at the February 12, 2015, Faculty Senate meeting.

**MOTION:**

The ASC moves that the following changes are made in the current GSU Academic Renewal Policy  
1) that Academic Renewal shall be granted after a 3-year period of absence (5-year period in current policy)

2) that students may request Academic Renewal within one year of re-enrollment (“by the end of second semester of re-enrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first” in the current policy)

3) that Academic Renewal granted at any USG institution be honored by GSU (“The student must re-enroll at the same institution in which he/she experienced the problem” in current policy)

4) that “overall GPA (all GSU and transfer) will be used to determine if students are eligible for honors at graduation” (Academic renewal GPA in current policy)

And

5) that Exclusion 2 period of absence in the Academic Standing Policy be changed to 3 years (5 years in current policy)

Implementation date: upon approval by the Faculty Senate

**RATIONALE:**

The Board of Regents implemented changes to the Academic Renewal Policy at the University System level that went into effect on August 20, 2014. The Academic Standards Committee was charged with reviewing the GSU’s Academic Renewal Policy and its compliance with the USG Policy. The recommendations included in the motion (above) are meant to align the GSU policy with the USG policy.

gm

c: Dr. Jean Bartels  
Dr. Diana Cone  
Ms. Candace Griffith



## Senate Executive Committee Request Form

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### Motion Request

1/22/2015

**SHORT TITLE:**

(Please provide a short descriptive title that would be suitable for inclusion in the Senate Agenda.)

Recommended changes to the "Academic Renewal Policy" and "Academic Standing Policy"

**MOTION(s):**

(Please write out your motion in the exact form/wording on which you want the Senate to vote.)

The ASC moves that the following changes are made in the current GSU Academic Renewal Policy 1) that Academic Renewal shall be granted after a 3-year period of absence (5-year period in current policy) 2) that students may request Academic Renewal within one year of re-enrollment ("by the end of second semester of re-enrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first" in the current policy) 3) that Academic Renewal granted at any USG institution be honored by GSU ("The student must re-enroll at the same institution in which he/she experienced the problem" in current policy) 4) that "overall GPA (all GSU and transfer) will be used to determine if students are eligible for honors at graduation" (Academic renewal GPA in current policy) And 5) that Exclusion 2 period of absence in the Academic Standing Policy be changed to 3 years (5 years in current policy) Implementation date: upon approval by the Faculty Senate

**RATIONALE(s):**

(Please explain why the motion should be considered by the Faculty Senate, remembering that the Senate does not deal with issues limited to individual colleges or administrative units. Include pertinent data and source references for information and/or language.)

Rationale: The Board of Regents implemented changes to the Academic Renewal Policy at the University System level that went into effect on August 20, 2014. The Academic Standards Committee was charged with reviewing the GSU's Academic Renewal Policy and its compliance with the USG Policy. The recommendations included in the motion (above) are meant to align the GSU policy with the USG policy.

If you have an attachment, press the button below to attach to form.

ASC meeting January 8 2015 minutes.docx  
17.17 KB[Click here to attach a file](#)[Click here to attach a file](#)[Click here to attach a file](#)



Submitted by:

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**Approval**

Response:

Approved

SEC Response:

1/29/2015



On the agenda

Senate Response:

2/12/2015



Approved.

Presidents Response:

2/13/2015



Approved.

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## **Academic Standards Committee (ASC) meeting**

**January 8, 2015 at 10:10am**

### **Minutes**

The ASC convened at 10:10am and had two items on the agenda: review of appeals and discussion of the recently changed BOR Academic Renewal Policy.

Changes to the BOR Academic Renewal Policy went into effect on August 20, 2014. The ACS was charged with reviewing the GSU's Academic Renewal Policy and making the necessary changes to align GSU's policy with the USG changes.

Diana Cone presented a summary of the changes to the USG policy. The ASC discussed the changes to the ARP based on the recommendations of the ARP workgroup (Academic Renewal Policy and Procedure. Policy and Procedure overview. USG, May 2014, pg. 5)

**Recommendation One:** Establish a flexible period of absence to be no less than three (3) years and no more than five (5) years. The institution may choose a time period in this window that is appropriate for its mission, population of students being served, and other relevant factors. The current five-year period of absence was based on what was common at other institutions across the nation at the time. However, this figure is not based on data or research that indicates that five years is the necessary amount of time a student should be absent. This change provides institutions with more flexibility for determining the period of absence.

**Current GSU policy:** 5-year period of absence (p. 1b in Academic Renewal policy)

**Motion to change the 5-year period of absence to a 3-year period of absence. John Brown. Second: John King. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Motion to adjust the Academic Standing Policy Exclusion 2 period of absence to 3-years to correspond with the change in the Academic Renewal Policy. John Brown. Second: John King. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Motion to make changes to the 3-year period of absence instead of 5-year period of absence in the entire Academic Renewal Policy. John Brown. Second: Sally Ann Brown. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Recommendation Two:** Students should be encouraged to apply for Academic Renewal as soon as possible at the time of re-enrollment or enrollment. The institution can determine the deadline to apply but that deadline should be no less than one calendar year after enrollment. Current procedure states that a student has three semesters or one calendar year, whichever comes first, to apply for Academic Renewal. However a student may not be aware that Academic Renewal is an option or may decide later to pursue Academic Renewal. This change provides more discretion to those institutions that may want to provide students a longer window to apply.

**Current GSU policy:** If a student does not request Academic Renewal status at the time of re-enrollment after a five year or greater period of absence from any post-secondary institution, the student may do so by the end of the second semester of reenrollment or within one calendar year, whichever comes first. The Academic Renewal GPA begins with the first semester following re-enrollment (p. 2 in Academic Renewal Policy)



**Motion to change GSU policy and remove the reference to semester deadline and leave the one calendar year deadline to match the one calendar year deadline in the BOR policy. Marshall Ransom. Second: Diana Cone. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Recommendation Three:** Allow transfer students from regionally accredited institutions of higher education to be eligible for Academic Renewal. Students in this category should be held to the same period of absence. However, because these students are not returning to their home institution, the period of absence should apply to their coursework. Only coursework completed prior to the period of eligibility would be considered for Academic Renewal.

and

**Recommendation Five:** If Academic Renewal is granted at one USG institution, it should be honored at another USG institution to ensure system consistency.

Current GSU policy: The student must reenroll at the same institution in which he/she experienced the problems and must not have attended any post-secondary institution for at least five calendar years prior to re-enrolling (second sentence in Academic Renewal Policy).

**Motion to remove the sentence above from the GSU policy to allow Academic Renewal granted at any USG institution to be honored by GSU. Sally Ann Brown. Second: Danda Rawat. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Recommendation Four:** Allow students to be eligible for a renewed grade point average and earn transient credits for courses taken during the period of absence or from other institutions.

Current GSU policy: Academic credit for previously completed course work including transfer course work will be retained only for courses in which an "A", "B", "C", or "S" grade has been earned. Retained grades are not calculated in the Academic Renewal GPA, but are counted in the Academic Renewal Hours Earned (1d. GSU Academic Renewal Policy)

**The catalog states that no transfer credit will be assigned while students are on E1 or E2. Catalog needs to be changed to reflect changes in the Academic Renewal Policy upon approval. Diana Cone will address this issue with Enrollment Management.**

**Recommendation Six:** Institutions should determine a process for approving and denying Academic Renewal applications as well as a process for students to re-apply for Academic Renewal if they have been denied. Institutions should determine, as part of the application process, if a student has demonstrated readiness and has the potential to be successful if granted Academic Renewal.

Current GSU policy: Policy already specifies that students have to apply for Academic Renewal and GSU has an Academic Renewal Application (attached). Registrar's office will adjust the Academic Renewal Application to reflect changes in Academic Renewal Policy.

**Recommendation Seven:** Institutions should determine if a student with Academic Renewal is eligible for honors at graduation according to their institutional policies particularly given that these policies vary widely.

Current GSU policy: The Academic Renewal GPA will be used for determining academic standing and eligibility for graduation. At least 50% of work toward a degree must be completed after the granting of Academic Renewal for a student to be eligible for honors at graduation (1c)

**Motion to add an additional sentence that “overall GPA (all GSU and transfer) will be used to determine if students are eligible for honors at graduation”. Sally Ann Brown. Second: John King. Motion approved unanimously.**

**Time for implementation of changes to Academic Renewal Policy and to E2 in Academic Standing Policy: as soon as approved by the Faculty Senate**

Motion to adjourn – John Brown. Second: John King. Meeting adjourned at 11:55am.

Submitted by Diana Sturges



## 2.5.1 Academic Renewal

*Last reviewed: January 2010*

### SOURCES:

[BoR POLICY 3.5.1. ACADEMIC RENEWAL](#)

EFFECTIVE DATE: JUNE 1995, UPDATED 5/24/2000 Revised 10/2014

### Definition of Terms for the Purpose of These Procedures

**Suspension:** A temporary separation from an institution. A suspension may be for (a) a specified period of time or (b) indefinite. Upon expiration of the specified period of suspension, the student is eligible to re-enroll. A student under indefinite suspension must petition for reinstatement to the president of the institution.

**Dismissal:** A permanent separation of the student from the institution. A student who is dismissed is not eligible to return to the institution.

**Procedures** The following procedures should be applied for students seeking Academic Renewal:

- I. Applying for Academic Renewal Status
  - A. Students are encouraged to apply for Academic Renewal status at the time of re-enrollment or enrollment as a transfer student at a USG institution. Students who do not request Academic Renewal status at that time must do so within an established period of time determined by the institution not to be less than one calendar year after enrollment.
  - B. Each USG institution shall establish specific evaluative criteria and procedures for application evaluation, approval, denial and re-application for Academic Renewal.
  - C. Each institution will establish a process to determine if a student is ready to return.
  - D. Institutions can determine if Academic Renewal status can be requested as part of the readmission process or after enrollment.
  - E. A student can be granted Academic Renewal Status only one time.
- II. All previously attempted coursework continues to be recorded on the student's official transcript.
  - A. A Renewal GPA is begun when the student resumes taking coursework following approval for Academic Renewal.
  - B. The Academic Renewal GPA will be used for determining academic standing and eligibility for graduation.
    1. To earn a degree from the institution granting Academic Renewal, a student must meet the institution's residency requirements (the number of credit hours that must be earned at the degree awarding institution) after acquiring Academic Renewal status
    2. Institutions will determine the eligibility for honors at graduation for those students granted Academic Renewal status based on their institution policies regarding honor graduation.

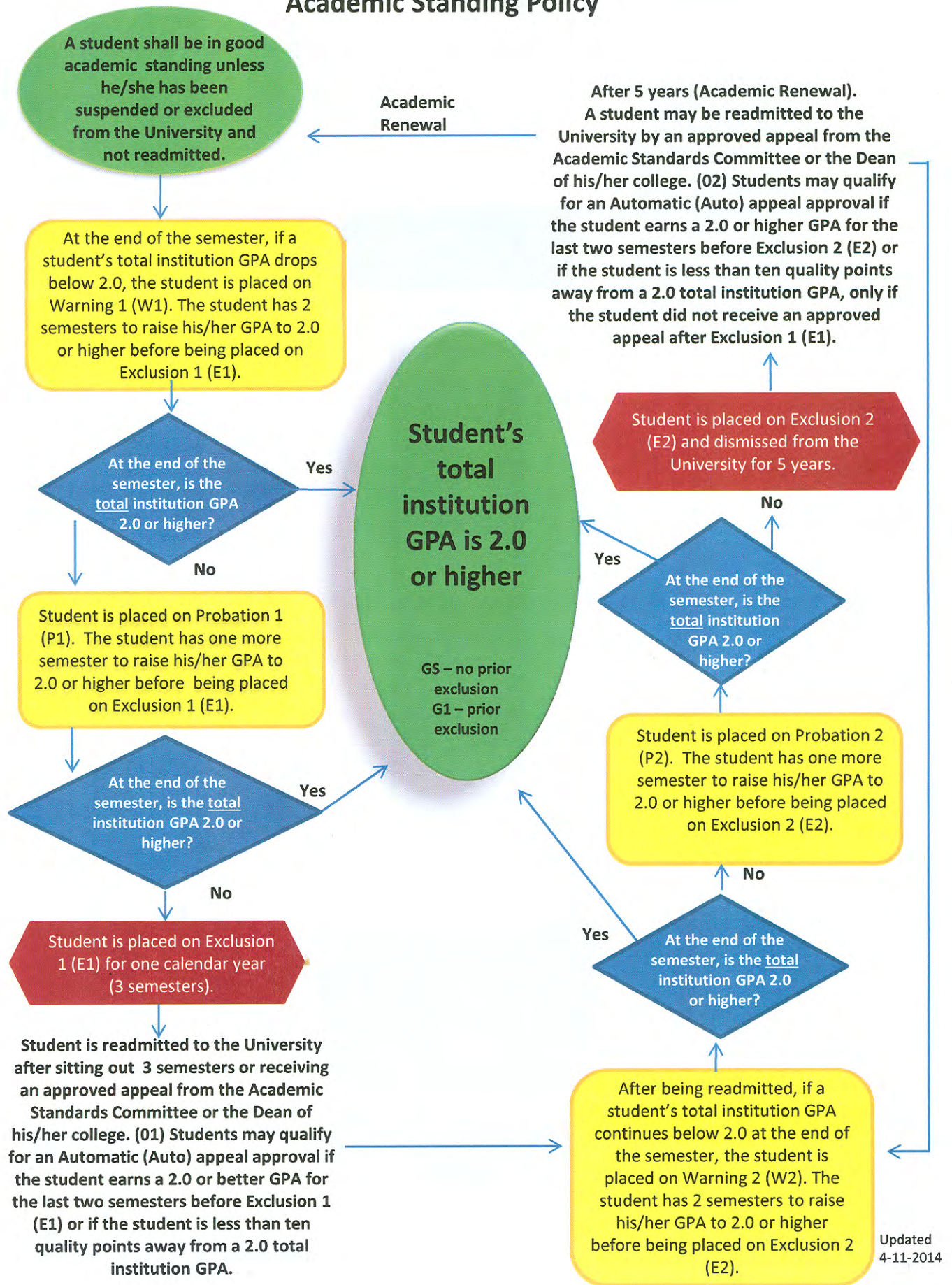


- C. Academic credit for previously completed coursework, including transfer coursework, will be retained only for courses in which a grade of A, B or C has been earned.
1. Retained grades are not calculated in a Renewal GPA. Such credit is considered in the same context as transfer credit, credit by examination, and courses with grades of "S."
  2. Courses with grades of D or F must be repeated at the Academic Renewal institution if they are required in the student's degree program.
  3. Applicability of retained credit to degree requirements will be determined by the degree requirements in effect at the time Academic Renewal status is conferred on the student. Specific institutional program regulations must also be met.
  4. Institutions shall accept transient credits of students with Academic Renewal status per their policies regarding the acceptance of such credit.
- III. Undergraduate students who are transferring to a USG institution or are returning to a USG institution after a period of absence may be eligible for Academic Renewal.
- A. Readmitted Students
1. USG undergraduate students who return to their home institution may be eligible for Academic Renewal for coursework taken prior to the period of absence.
    - a. Students must be absent from the USG institution for a minimum period of time to be determined by the institution but that is no less than three (3) years and no longer than five (5) years.
    - b. Transfer credit for any coursework taken during the period of absence should be granted according to the institution's policies regarding transfer credits.
- B. Transfer Students
1. Students who leave a regionally-accredited institution of higher education and transfer to a USG institution may be eligible for Academic Renewal for coursework taken prior to a period of time equal to the period of absence required for Academic Renewal eligibility for readmitted students (which is no less than three (3) years and no longer than five (5) years).
    - a. Only coursework completed prior to the eligibility window can be considered for Academic Renewal
    - b. The period of eligibility is calculated from the date of enrollment at the USG institution.
    - c. Courses taken more recently than the period of eligibility are ineligible for consideration for Academic Renewal. However, transfer credit can be granted for coursework taken during this period according to the institution's policies regarding transfer credits.
- IV. Any scholastic suspensions that occurred in the past shall remain recorded on the student's permanent record. If a suspension (either first or second) is on the record and the student encounters subsequent academic difficulty after having been granted Academic Renewal, the next suspension subjects the student to dismissal.
- V. The Renewal GPA begins with the semester following re-enrollment.

- VI. Re-entry into any program is not automatic.
- VII. The granting of Academic Renewal does not supersede financial aid policies regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress.
- VIII. The granting of Academic Renewal does not supersede the admissions requirements of certain programs, e.g., teacher education and nursing, which require a specific minimum grade point average based upon all coursework.
- IX. Academic Renewal status granted by one USG institution shall be honored at all other USG institutions.



## Academic Standing Policy





## Academic Standing Policy

Fall semester 2011, Georgia Southern University implemented a new Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy. A student shall be in good academic standing unless he/she has been suspended or excluded from the University and not readmitted. At the end of Fall 2011 semester, all students whose total institution GPA was below 2.0 were placed on Warning 1 (W1) at the beginning of their next semester of enrollment. The Academic Standing Policy is outlined in detail in the **2014-2015 Georgia Southern University Undergraduate Academic Catalog**; key parts of the policy are as follows:

- Academic standing will be determined by coursework completed at Georgia Southern University; transfer credit will not be considered.
- All students will be allowed one approved appeal to the Academic Standards Committee or Dean of his/her college beginning Fall semester 2011.
- **Any student (including transfer hours) with 30 or fewer overall earned hours whose total institution GPA is below 2.0 at the end of a semester will be placed on Academic Intervention and will be required to meet certain restrictions in order to enroll, including:**
  - Enrolling in GSU 1120, *Methods of Learning*, until satisfactorily (grade of "S") completed or a 2.0 total institution GPA is earned
  - Restricted enrollment of 14 credit hours while enrolled in GSU 1120
  - Meeting regularly with an advisor
- **A student whose total institution GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of a semester will be subject to the Academic Standing policy:**
  - **Warning 1 (W1) – notice that academic probation and subsequent exclusion from the University will follow unless the quality of academic work improves**
    - Imposed at the end of the first semester of enrollment in which the student's total institution GPA drops below a 2.0 GPA
    - A student on Warning 1 (W1) will be allowed to continue a maximum of two semesters of enrollment before being placed on Exclusion (E1) if his/her total institution GPA does not reach 2.0 or higher.
    - A student who raises his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 and later earns a total institution GPA below 2.0 will again be placed on Warning 1 (W1).
  - **Probation 1 (P1) – notice that Exclusion (E1) from the University will follow unless the quality of academic work improves**
    - Imposed when a student on Warning 1 (W1) does not raise his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 or higher by the end of the Warning 1 (W1) semester.
    - A student on Probation 1 (P1) will be allowed to continue one semester of enrollment before being placed on Exclusion 1 (E1) if the total institution GPA does not reach 2.0 or higher.
    - A student who raises his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 and later earns a total institution GPA below 2.0 will again be placed on Warning 1 (W1).
  - **Exclusion 1 (E1) – imposed when a student with a Probation 1 (P1) Academic Standing does not raise his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 or higher by the end of the Probation 1 (P1) semester**
    - Exclusion 1 (E1) allows the student to reflect on his/her academic status
    - Exclusion 1 (E1) is for one calendar year (three semesters)
    - Appeals to Exclusion 1 (E1) may be submitted to the Academic Standards Committee; if denied, appeals must be made through the Dean of a student's college.



- If a student earns a 2.0 or better GPA for the last two semesters before Exclusion 1 (E1) or if the student is less than ten quality points away from a 2.0 total institution GPA, the student will be allowed to continue enrollment for the following semester without submitting an appeal. His/her registration will not be canceled; ***however, this exception will count as the one and only approved appeal.***
- A student will be allowed no more than one approved appeal to the Academic Standards Committee or Dean of his/her college.
  - If an appeal is approved, the student will be readmitted to the University.
  - Once readmitted, a student will be allowed to continue a maximum of three semesters of enrollment if his/her total institution GPA remains below 2.0.
- If a student is readmitted after being placed on E1, his/her academic standing will be Warning 2 (W2) if the total GPA does not reach 2.0 or better by the end of his/her first semester of re-enrollment.
  - Warning 2 (W2)
    - Serves as notice that Academic Probation and subsequent Exclusion from the University will follow unless the quality of academic work improves.
    - After a student on Exclusion 1 (E1) has been readmitted, he/she will be placed on Warning 2 (W2) at the end of the first semester if the total institution GPA remains below 2.0.
    - A student will be allowed to continue a maximum of two semesters of enrollment before being placed on Exclusion 2 (E2) if his/her total institution GPA does not reach 2.0 or higher.
    - A student who raises his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 and later earns a total institution GPA below 2.0 will again be placed on Warning 2 (W2).
  - Probation 2 (P2)
    - Serves as final notice that Exclusion 2 (E2) from the University will follow unless the quality of the academic work improves.
    - A student on Warning 2 (W2) who does not bring his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 or higher at the end of the semester will be placed on Probation 2 (P2).
    - After being placed on Probation 2 (P2), a student will be allowed to continue only one semester before being placed on Exclusion 2 (E2) if the total institution GPA remains below 2.0.
    - A student who raises his/her total institution GPA to 2.0 and later earns a total institution GPA below 2.0 will again be placed on Warning 2 (W2).
  - A student on Probation 2 (P2) whose total institution GPA does not reach 2.0 or higher by the end of the semester will be placed on Exclusion 2 (E2), the final exclusion imposed on a student who has previously been excluded.
    - The student is dismissed from Georgia Southern University for five years.
    - Appeals to continue before five years have passed are approved only in extraordinary circumstances.
      - Appeals must be filed within three semesters of being placed on Exclusion 2 (E2).
      - Appeals are allowed ***only if*** the student has not received an approved appeal previously.
      - Appeals must be made to the Academic Standards Committee or Dean of a student's college.
    - If a student makes a 2.0 or better for the last two semesters before Exclusion 2 (E2) or if a student is less than ten quality points away from a 2.0 total institution GPA, the Academic

Standards Committee will approve for the student to continue without submitting an appeal ***only if*** the student did not receive an approved appeal after Exclusion 1 (E1).



# Senate Executive Committee Request Form

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## Motion Request

5/25/2010

### SHORT TITLE:

(Please provide a short descriptive title that would be suitable for inclusion in the Senate Agenda.)

The Academic Standards Committee requests a change to the Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy.

### MOTION(s):

(Please write out your motion in the exact form/wording on which you want the Senate to vote.)

The Academic Standards Committee moves that the University Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy be amended to improve ease of understanding, efficient use of university resources, and improve student accountability.

### RATIONALE(s):

(Please explain why the motion should be considered by the Faculty Senate, remembering that the Senate does not deal with issues limited to individual colleges or administrative units. Include pertinent data and source references for information and/or language.)

The proposed policy is the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee and will impact the entire GSU academic community: faculty, administrators, and students.

If you have an attachment, press the button below to attach to form.



current academic standings.pdf  
34.13 KB



PROPOSEDAcademic Standing-Appeals Process.pdf  
23.02 KB



Stuart - Proposed Changes to Student Academic Standing Policy \_1.docx  
25.53 KB



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**Note to faculty users: Double-check your data before submitting, because the data cannot be edited afterward.**

### Approval

Response:

Approved

SEC Response:

6/9/2010

On the June 9, 2010, Agenda

Senate Response:


6/9/2010


Tabled the motion to give SGA a chance to read, evaluate, and give their input as well as nail down the ramification of the five years. 9/20/2010: Approved by the Senate


Presidents Response:


9/22/2010

Approved by the President.

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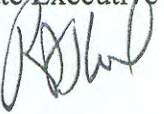


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TO: Dr. Clara Krug, Chair, Senate Executive Committee  
FROM: Brooks A. Keel, President   
DATE: September 22, 2010  
SUBJECT: September 20, 2010, Faculty Senate Recommendation:  
The Academic Standards Committee requests a change to the  
Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy.

---

Following review of the recommendation adopted by the Faculty Senate at the September 20, 2010, Faculty Senate meeting, as provided in your memo of September 21, 2010, I have approved the motion below presented to the Senate by Dr. Stuart Tedders.

**MOTION:** The Academic Standards Committee moves that the University Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy be amended to improve ease of understanding, efficient use of university resources, and improve student accountability.

**RATIONALE:** The proposed policy is the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee and will impact the entire GSU academic community: faculty, administrators, and students.

gm

c: Dr. Jean Bartels  
Dr. Kathy Albertson  
Dr. Stuart Tedders  
Ms. Candace Griffith




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TO: President Brooks Keel

FROM: Jean E. Bartels   
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: September 21, 2010

SUBJ: **September 20, 2010, Faculty Senate Recommendation  
The Academic Standards Committee Requests a Change to the  
Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy**

---

I recommend approval of the motion presented by Dr. Stuart Tedders at the September 20, 2010, Faculty Senate meeting.

**MOTION:**

The Academic Standards Committee moves that the University Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy be amended to improve ease of understanding, efficient use of university resources, and improve student accountability.

**RATIONALE:**

The proposed policy is the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee and will impact the entire GSU academic community: faculty, administrators, and students

JEB/lis

pc: Dr. Clara Krug  
Dr. Kathy Albertson  
Dr. Stuart Tedders  
Ms. Candace Griffith



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TO: Brooks A. Keel, Ph.D.

FROM: Michael Moore, Chair, Senate Executive Committee *mm by Gungel*

DATE: June 10, 2010

SUBJECT: **June 9, 2010, Faculty Senate Recommendation**  
**The Academic Standards Committee requests a change to the**  
**Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy.**

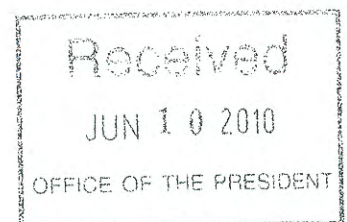
The Senate voted to table the motion below presented by Dr. Stuart Tedders at the June 9, 2010, meeting.

**MOTION:** The Academic Standards Committee moves that the University Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy be amended to improve ease of understanding, efficient use of university resources, and improve student accountability.

**RATIONALE:** The proposed policy is the recommendation of the Academic Standards Committee and will impact the entire GSU academic community: faculty, administrators, and students.

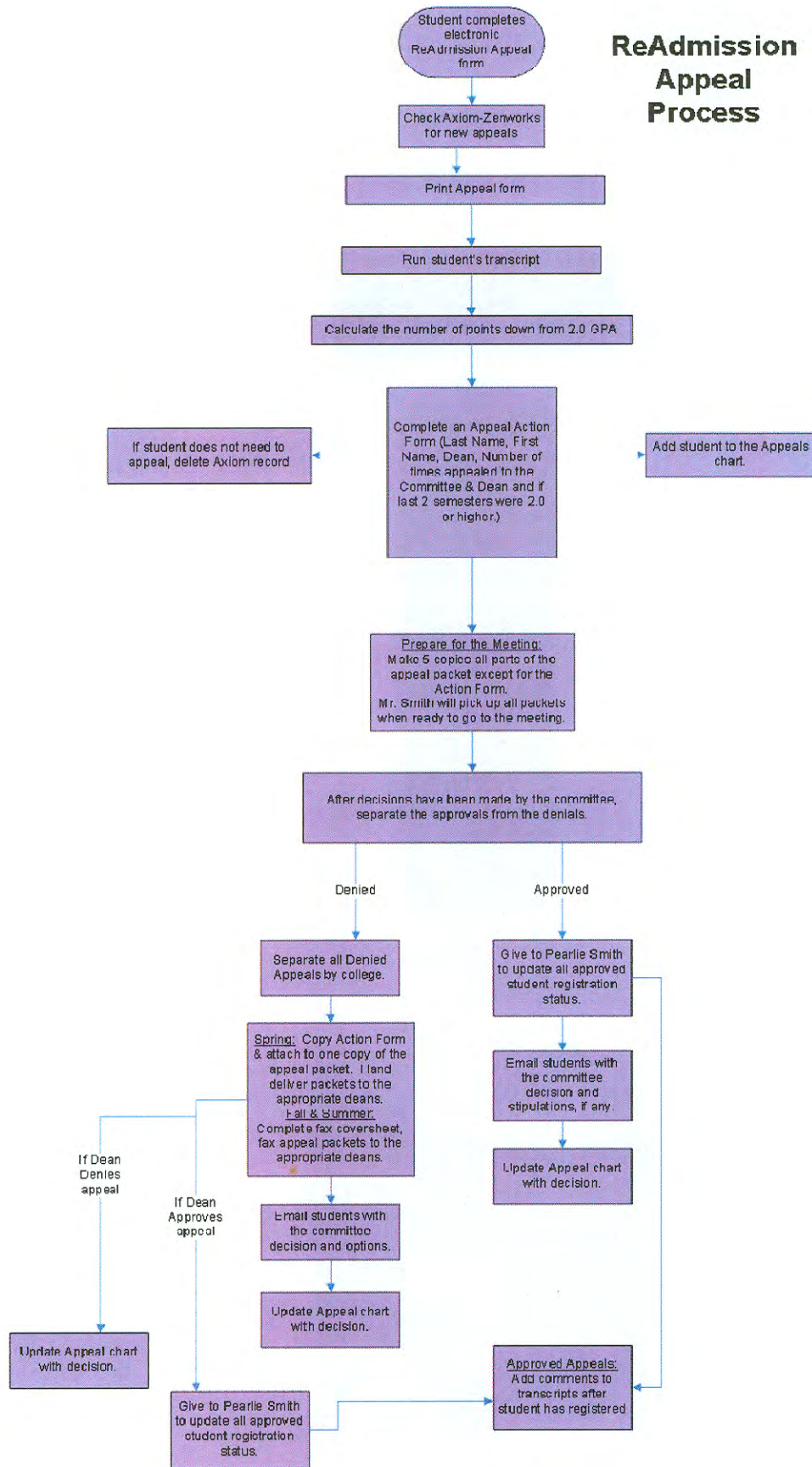
gm

- c. Dr. Gary Means
- Dr. Amy Heaston
- Ms. Candace Griffith
- Dr. Stuart Tedders





# ReAdmission Appeal Process



## PROPOSED Academic Standing

- ◆ Last 2 Terms with a 2.0 GPA or better; automatic readmission with submitting a ReAdmission Appeal, does not go to the committee.
- ◆ 10 points or fewer down from a 2.0 GPA, automatic approval with submitting a ReAdmission Appeal, does not go to the committee. \*\*
- ◆ 1 approval allowed by the Academic Standards Committee or the Dean of the College.

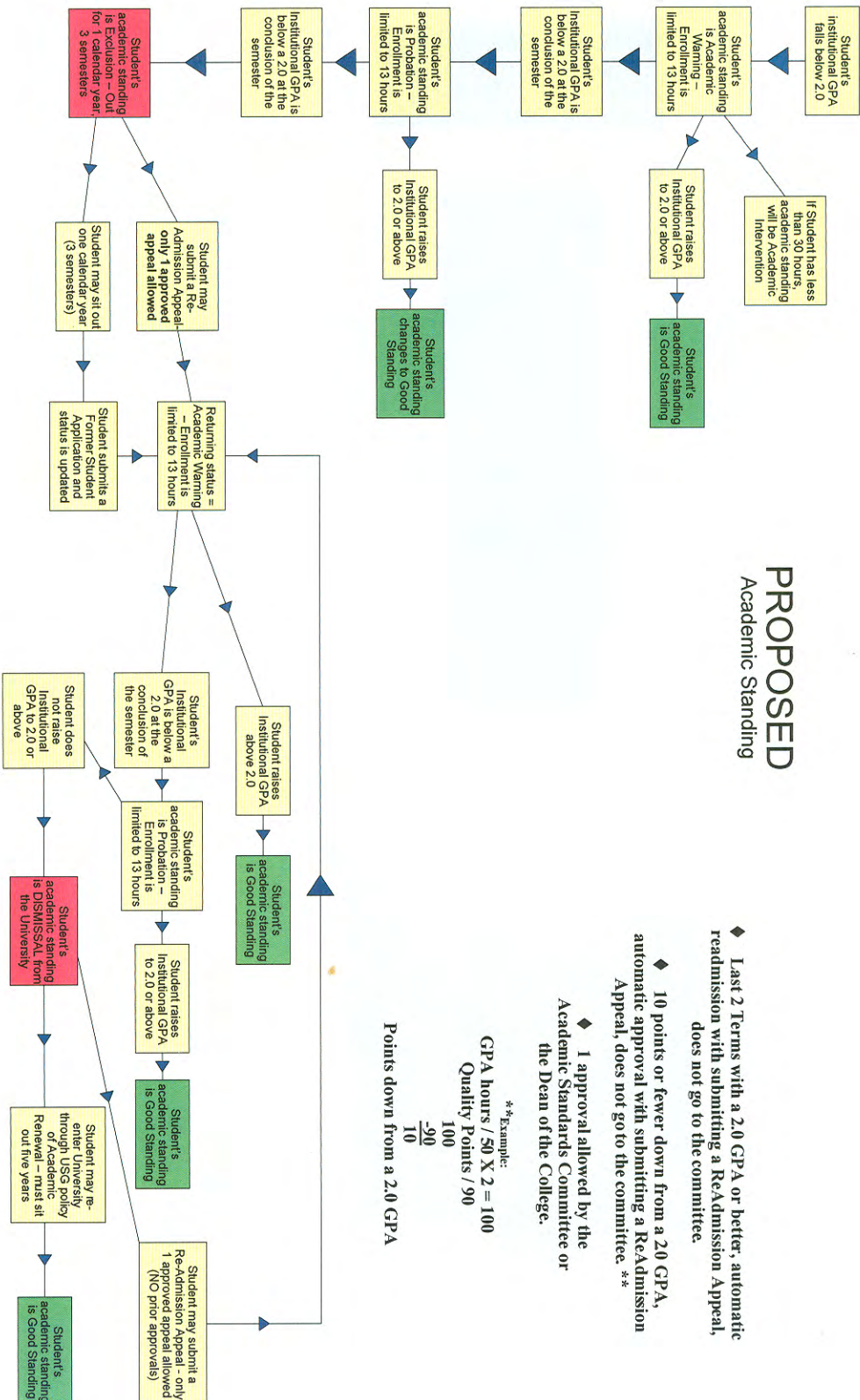
\*\*Example:  

$$\text{GPA hours} / 50 \times 2 = 100$$

$$\text{Quality Points} / 90$$

$$\frac{100}{90} = 1.11$$

$$1.11 - 1.00 = 0.11$$
 Points down from a 2.0 GPA





# **Proposed Changes to the Undergraduate Academic Standing Policy**

## **Presented to: The Faculty Senate**

June 9, 2010

### **1 Charge of the Committee**

It was requested by the Office of the Provost for the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) to review the Georgia Southern University academic standing policies. One of our goals of reviewing the academic standings is to determine ways to simplify and streamline the policy. The ASC began this process in the Fall of 2008.

Once the proposed academic policies are finalized by the ASC, Mike Deal would like to share them with Dr. Heaston and Dr. Thompson so that he can discuss what data may be needed prior to presentation to the Dean's Council and the Enrollment Management Council. Eventually, the proposed changes will need to be reviewed by the Faculty Senate, President's Cabinet for discussion/recommendation/approval. Other groups may be required to review these changes as well.

Listed below are the responsibilities of the Academic Standards Committee:

SECTION 15. The responsibilities of the ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE shall be as follows:

- a. review and recommend policy and procedures concerning academic standards as they affect the overall academic integrity of the University;
- b. recommend policy and procedures and act upon appeals concerning admissions, academic suspension and academic exclusion, special admission and readmission, and provisional and probationary procedures;
- c. address other specific questions in this area that may be requested by the Senate Executive Committee; and
- d. report to the Librarian, the Senate Executive Committee, and the Senate as described in Article IV, Section 3.

SECTION 16. Voting membership of the Academic Standards Committee shall be composed of senators or alternates representing each college or the library, one per unit, appointed by the Senate Executive Committee and faculty members elected by and representing each college and the library, one per unit. Non-voting membership shall be composed of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, or his/her delegate, who shall vote in the case of a tie among voting members of the committee, and the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, or his/her delegate. The chair shall be a senator elected by the voting members of the committee.



## **2 Review of the Current Academic Standing Policy & the Proposed Academic Standing Policy**

### **(A) A flowchart of the current academic standing policy is attached.**

The current academic standing policy is a cumbersome and confusing process. At present, students are entitled to two appeals (Academic Standards Committee & the Dean of the College). Following the first exclusion, students are dismissed for one semester. After the second exclusion, the current policy dismisses students for a maximum of one year (3 semesters). However, these students are allowed to return to Georgia Southern the next year. Theoretically, the current policy enables students to remain at Georgia Southern indefinitely. The Academic Standards Committee views this perpetual cycle as an ethical issue because students are readmitted with little, or no, possibility of graduating from Georgia Southern. Therefore, it is recognized that the current academic standing policy is not in the best interest of a students' professional development.

### **(B) A flowchart of the proposed academic standing policy is attached.**

The proposed standing policy is more streamlined and holds the student to a higher academic standard congruent with expectations at Georgia Southern University. The number of appeals available to students has been reduced to only one, and the proposed policy addresses the ethical issue inherent in the existing policy by removing students who will never graduate from Georgia Southern. This forces students to seriously consider alternatives for higher education.

### **(C) Differences in exclusions and appeals between the current and proposed policy.**

#### **Current Policy**

Exclusion 1 (E1)      the student must sit out for one semester

Exclusion 2 (E2)      the student must sit out for one academic year (ie - three semesters)

#### **Proposed Policy**

Exclusion 1 (E1)      the student must sit out for one academic year (three semesters)

Exclusion 2 (E2)      the student is dismissed from Georgia Southern University permanently unless he or she has not had an approved appeal. If the student has already has an approved appeal the student can return to Georgia Southern University after five (5) years after using the Academic Renewal Policy.



### 3 Potential Impact of Policy Implementation

#### EXCLUSIONS AND APPEALS

Term	Current Policy	Proposed Policy			
	Total Exclusion Current Policy	Total Exclusion Proposed Policy	One Appeal (E1)	Two Appeals (E2)	Students Not Eligible to Attend (E3)
Fall 05	0	0	0	0	0
Spring 06	13	0	0	0	0
Summer 06	17	71	71	0	0
Fall 06	118	204	204	0	0
Spring 07	56	71	47	24	0
Summer 07	22	68	23	45	0
Fall 07	61	105	34	62	9
Spring 08	31	70	8	23	39
Summer 08	18	64	9	7	48
Fall 08	26	92	15	14	63
Spring 09	29	86	11	8	67
Summer 09	10	54	6	4	44

NUMBER OF GRADUATES			
	Current Policy	Two Appeals	Students Not Eligible to Attend
Spring 06	1	0	0
Summer 06	2	0	0
Fall 06	8	0	0
Spring 07	55	0	0
Summer 07	32	0	0
Fall 07	55	0	0
Spring 08	84	0	0
Summer 08	37	2	2
Fall 08	65	2	0
Spring 09	364	0	2
Summer 09	174	2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>

## **(A) Academic Intervention**

In the current policy, Academic Intervention applies to any students with fewer than 30 overall GPA hours and whose total institution cumulative GPA is 1.5 or below. This policy applies to transfer students as well, and the following conditions must be met:

1. Students must enroll in no more than 13 hours until the total institution cumulative GPA is above 1.5. The typical load would be academic courses for 9 – 10 hours, GSU 1120 for 2 hours (see #2 below), and a physical activity course (KINS prefix) for 1 hour.
2. Students must enroll in GSU 1120, "Methods of Learning", unless the student has completed that course with a minimum grade of "C" prior to Spring 2002, or a grade of "S". The GSU 1120 course is specifically designed to improve study skills and overall academic performance. Students who do not attend as required will receive a grade of "F".

Exceptions to this policy must be approved by the Office of the Registrar. In addition to these requirements, students are strongly urged to have regular meetings with their advisors for periodic updates on academic progress, for consultation, and for referral to appropriate support services as needed.

While on Academic Intervention, a student may pre-register for a subsequent term without being subjected to the Academic Intervention Policy.

In the proposed policy Academic Intervention applies to any students with fewer than 30 overall GPA hours and whose total institution cumulative GPA is 1.9 or below.

Implementation of the new policy will impact the number of students required to be in GSU 1120 (METHODS OF LEARNING). Based on data from Spring Term 2006, the impact will be as follows:

- 324 students enrolled under the current policy
- 633 students enrolled under the proposed policy

Note: The maximum number of students in a GSU 1120 (Methods of Learning) class is 30 students.