

Date: 10/6/2009

To: Dr. Alan Freitag, FEC Chair

From: Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee:

Bob Anderson	MATH
Jeff Barto	KNES
Cheryl Brown	POLS
Thomas Forget	ARCH
Chuck Hamaker	LIB
Evan Houston	MATH
Dolly King	FINN
Rich Lambert	EDLD
Mehdi Miri	Chair
Susan Sell	BINF
Ed Stokes	ECE
Andrew Besmer	Graduate & Professional Student Gov.
Brittany Bernado	Student Government Association

RE: The Working Group's requests for Catalog policy clarifications

The Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee (FAPSC) met on Oct. 2, 2009, to consider a long list of requests from The Working Group for Catalog policy clarifications. FAPSC members present were Bob Anderson, Jeff Barto, Andrew Besmer, Cheryl Brown, Thomas Forget, Evan Houston, Martin Kane (Stokes' alternate), Dolly King, Rich Lambert, Mehdi Miri, and Susan Sell. Invited guests from The Working Group present were Carolyn Blattner, Chris Knauer, Alisa Roy, and John Smail.

Because of very lively discussions, we were unable to consider all the requests but did pass the following two motions. The remaining requests will be considered in our Nov. meeting.

Motion 1:

The UNC Charlotte Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee unanimously moves that the following policy on Page 33 of the PDF version of the 2009-2010 University Undergraduate Catalog be entirely deleted:

***Course Levels.** Junior and senior students are required to have the permission of the major department to enroll in any course below the 3000-level not required in their degree program.*

Rational:

No one knew of any good reason for the existence of this policy. Perhaps lack of any good reason is why this policy is not currently being enforced.

Motion 2:

The UNC Charlotte Faculty Academic Policy and Standards Committee unanimously moves that the following policy on Page 35 of the PDF version of the 2009-2010 University Undergraduate Catalog be modified as follows (deletions are in red strikethroughs and additions are in bold blue):

***Final Grade Changes and Appeals from Final Course Grades.** When a final course grade other than Incomplete (I) is officially reported by the instructor at the end of an academic term, the grade is recorded by the Office of the Registrar and can be changed only if the grade has been assigned arbitrarily or impermissibly as defined in the Faculty's "Policy and Procedures for Student Appeals of Final Course Grades," available online at www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/GradeAppeal.html.*

For guidelines on applying this policy, see:

www.legal.uncc.edu/policies/GradeAppealGuide.html.

*Students should follow the procedures outlined in that policy if they believe that the final course grade that has been assigned is incorrect. The policy requires the student to discuss the grade with the instructor as soon as possible after the grade is received. Students should note, however, that the University is not obliged to respond to a grade appeal unless the student files it with the appropriate department chairperson or interdisciplinary program director within the first four weeks ~~of the subsequent fall or spring academic semester~~ **following the last day of the regular semester or the summer term in which the grade was received.** When a grade is assigned consistent with University policy, only the instructor has the right to change the grade except as provided in the Incomplete grade policy. When an instructor reports a grade change for a grade other than I, the "Change of Grade" form must be approved by his/her department chair and college dean.*

Rational:

Under the current policy, students who have graduated can appeal their grades up to several months after graduation. When grades are changed after degrees are posted, official transcripts are changed and have to be resent to as many places as students had previously requested. This recommended policy change will limit the appeal period to four weeks after graduation, and will reduce the number of transcripts that are resent and re-received. For students who are not graduating, four weeks is enough time to file their appeals.