

Admissions/Readmissions Bylaws Amendment Proposal

Amended text:

Section 14. Admissions & Readmissions Committee:

The purposes of the committee shall be to:

A. Review and recommend policies and procedures regarding admission, readmission, and retention issues;

B. Adjudicate student appeals for exceptions to the university's policies governing admission, readmission and academic standards in a manner that ensures the confidentiality of individual cases; and

C. Provide appropriate representation on the university Enrollment Management Committee(s). These representatives should be voting members of the committee(s).

The committee will have seven voting members to include six faculty serving three-year terms, two retiring each year, four elected from and by their respective schools and two elected at-large; and one student serving a one year term selected annually in a manner determined by the student government association. The Provost, the Director of Admissions, the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Registrar, the Director of Counseling or their designees shall be ex officio non-voting members. Should an elected faculty member not be the Designated Senator a non-voting Designated Senator shall also serve on the committee. The committee shall elect its chairperson annually.

Case for removal of student member:

There has been no student member present for several meetings, so this change is bringing the bylaws up to date with current practice. A student representative is extraneous to the committee in that our function is to review an application made directly to the faculty and relevant administrative offices, not as an appeal to the student body. Further, the committee raised serious concerns which might ultimately have consequences for FERPA. Even without this possibility, the committee has observed serious conflicts of interest when a student member must assist in adjudicating the case of a classmate. Finally, as discussion on the committee must necessarily move between issues of mental health, performance in coursework and financial status, the committee feels most strongly that confidentiality on the part of the applicant is the most serious concern.

Case for addition of the Registrar:

The Registrar's office adds invaluable information in terms of the process of admissions and readmissions information to the committee's consideration. The Registrar currently attends committee meetings, and so this bylaw change brings them in line with current practice.