

Prepared by Dave Parker for the Faculty Senate Meeting of 11 February 2003

MOTION: I move that the Faculty Senate rescind its 22 October 2002 acceptance of the proposal submitted by Academic Policies Committee “for changing the policy for probation and dismissal” and that the catalogue copy based upon that proposal be brought before the Faculty Senate for discussion and possible action.

Rationale:

- A) If we do not take this action, the Faculty Senate will remain largely uninformed about the actual policies which will appear in the catalogue. However, based upon the Senate’s blank-check approval on 22 October 2002, we will be surely share the blame for whatever is wrong with the resulting catalogue copy.
- B) Moreover the Senate failed to deliberate important questions concerning these policies, including but not limited to
  - 1) Should our students be expected to attain good standing within a fixed number of semesters? If so, how many? (There is no limit in the approved policies.)
  - 2) The GPA chart is arbitrary. Should ours emulate access institutions (which the approved policies do) or peers with higher standards?
  - 3) Should we allow our students who fail all of their courses to remain admitted (as the approved policies do) or should we take other actions?
- C) Additionally, the approved catalogue copy of the probation/dismissal policies contains several logical mistakes, chief among them a policy which would academically dismiss a student who was in good academic standing.
- D) Finally, we should reasonably expect the catalogue copy to be clear, complete, understandable, and well-written. What has been approved for inclusion in the next catalogue - and what the Faculty Senate accepted before reading it - has none of these qualities.