

Academic Policies Committee  
Minutes  
8 April 2016  
Minutes approved: 21 September 2016

**In Attendance:** Anne Barnhart, Ajith DeSilva, Shelly Elman, Emily McKendry-Smith, Patrick Hadley, Jennifer Heidorn, Debra MacComb, Ethan Stiles, April Wood (guest)

The meeting began at 2:00pm

- I. Minutes
  - a. The minutes from the 11 March 2016 meeting were approved without corrections.
  
- II. Ad hoc Dual Enrollment Committee
  - a. Discussion about the difference between MOWR and the Advance Academy occurred.
    - i. MOWR students are able to take online courses and courses offered in Newnan; AA students are required to take face-to-face courses on the Carrollton campus only.
    - ii. AA is no longer residential and is now part of MOWR.
  - b. Discussion about not allowing 9<sup>th</sup> graders to participate in MOWR ensued.
    - i. It was agreed that 9<sup>th</sup> graders should stay in high school and wait until they are in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade to pursue MOWR.
  - c. Discussion about social interaction between traditionally-aged college students and MOWR/AA students ensued.
    - i. What is the plan for educating traditionally-aged students about the legalities of dating, sexting minors?
      1. It was decided that this would be mentioned in the next Senate meeting and that it would be left to future APC meetings to determine.
  - d. The Minor Acknowledgement Form must be signed in order to be admitted.
    - i. If a parent doesn't sign the form, the student is not admitted.
  - e. The proposal from the ad hoc committee of the APC for admitting 10<sup>th</sup> grade student to UWG's MOWR program was unanimously passed. (please see addendum for the proposal)
  
- III. Student Evaluation form for Online Courses Availability
  - a. The committee continues to be concerned that the evaluations for online courses are closed too late.
    - i. The committee would like to see the end date be the last day of classes before finals week begins.
    - ii. The question of block scheduling and when evaluations would be available for courses that run eight weeks was brought up.
      1. It was mentioned that perhaps the availability of these evaluations could be staggered.
    - iii. It was determined that Beth Rene Roepnack would be consulted and invited to the next APC meeting in the Fall 2016 term to hash these details out before going to the Senate.

- IV. New Business
  - a. The name of the orientation that will occur August 6 & 7, "Pack Attack," was discussed.
    - i. The concern is that it seems violent in nature and may be unwittingly promote violence.
    - ii. It will be brought up in SGA to see what the students think.
- V. No Old Business was discussed
- VI. The meeting adjourned at 2:45pm

## Addendum I

April 8, 2016

Proposal from the ad hoc committee (Debra MacComb, Jean Cook, Charles Lipp, Scott Sykes) of APC for admitting 10<sup>th</sup> grade students to UWG's MOWR program.

The ad hoc committee considering dual enrollment for 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students initially met on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup> and subsequently consulted with and/or considered suggestions from APC members; Myrna Gantner, Associate VPAA; Jane Simpson, University Counsel; Charla Campbell, ORSP; April Wood, Associate Director MOWR; and Mike Hester, Executive Director of Special Programs to complete this proposal.

The ad hoc committee agreed that while there are undoubtedly intellectually prepared 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students who would benefit from dual enrollment, it also expressed reservations about such students' readiness to conduct themselves appropriately in a college/college classroom environment. Areas in which questions about maturity were raised included behavior and social skills, work habits, and the ability to engage productively with course materials and classroom language that might be age-inappropriate. Further, student-instructor confidentiality when students are minors presents potential legal problems.

The following recommendations **for admission of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students at UWG** are based on the most recent Advanced Academy requirements as well a comparison of admission requirements for MOWR students across the state. We do note that many of the institutions at or above our tier only allow junior and senior high school students to be admitted, or otherwise have an age limit of 15-16.

Recommended requirements for admission:

- 3.5 unweighted, academic high school GPA.
- One of the following: (1) 1650 Composite SAT score OR 25 Composite ACT score, (2) 650 SAT Critical Reading score OR 26 ACT English score, (3) 650 SAT Math score OR 26 ACT Math score, (4) 600 SAT Writing score OR 26 ACT Writing score.
- A student must be a High School Sophomore when enrollment begins.

Further recommendations:

- By email notification and corresponding webpages that would reference students who are possibly minors (Advanced Academy, MOWR, etc.), reiterate to faculty and staff that MOWR students are covered by FERPA even though they are minors. Notification would include procedures for faculty who are contacted by parents or guardians of MOWR students.
- If admitted, a student and his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s) would complete a Minor Acknowledgement Form:

*I, the undersigned below, in consideration of my child's or ward's participation in The University of West Georgia's Dual Enrollment Program ("Program"), including, but not limited to any related activities such as training, preparation, and travel, wherever the travel, training, and preparation may occur, acknowledge that I am aware that my child is below the average age of a University student. I understand that my child intends to register in the Program, which has classes that may feature mature subject matter not designed specifically for students under age 18; and that The University of West Georgia accepts no responsibility or liability for any extraordinary supervision of students enrolled in the program-*

*I agree that while my child or ward participates in the Program, she/he shall be bound by the rules, regulations, policies and procedures expressed in Undergraduate Academic Policies as are other students enrolled in the undergraduate curriculum. Specifically, she/he will be held accountable for the deadlines and final exam schedule posted by the Registrar's office. Further, final grades will be reported only as letter grades as they are for all other undergraduates; no numerical equivalent will be assigned for the purposes of ranking student achievement.*

*In consideration of my child's or ward's participation in the Program and on my child's or ward's behalf, and on behalf of my child's or ward's heirs, executors, administrators and next of kin, I hereby release, covenant not to sue, and forever discharge the Released Parties (as defined below) of and from all liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs and expenses of any nature arising out of, related to, or in any way connected with my child's or ward's participation in the Program, and further agree to indemnify and hold each of the Released Parties harmless from and against any and all such liabilities, claims, actions, damages, costs and expenses including by way of example, but not limited to, all attorneys' fees, costs of court, and the costs and expenses of other professionals and disbursements up through and including any appeal. I, for myself and my child and/or ward, understand that this Release and indemnity includes any claims based on the negligence, action or inaction of any of the Released Parties and covers bodily injury (including, without limitation, death), property damage, and loss by theft or otherwise, whether suffered by my child or ward either before, during or after such participation. I declare that my child or ward is physically and emotionally fit and has the maturity level required to participate in the Program. I further authorize medical treatment for me and/or my child or ward, at my cost, if the need arises. For the purposes hereof, the "Released Parties" are: The University of West Georgia, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, and the officers, directors, employees, agents, representatives, successors, assigns and volunteers of each of the foregoing entities.*

*I also agree that during the time my child or ward is involved with the Program, he/she is bound by all rules, regulations, policies, procedures and guidelines governing their conduct as set forth by The University of West Georgia's Student Code of Conduct and all applicable program requirements.*