

West Virginia State University
Academic Affairs
Faculty Senate Report

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Vice President for Academic Affairs

Efforts are underway to focus on **probationary transfer and readmitted students** to inform them about academic services available at the University from Collegiate Support Services and Upward Bound's Student Support Services. The **Deans Council** is developing a handout for these students with the goal of providing greater opportunities for retention and graduation. Deans are developing a procedure for these "at risk" students where they will talk with Dr. Teeuwissen prior to being fully admitted (or readmitted) to the institution, and will talk with Deans in the College of their intended major in order to provide closer monitoring of these students. It was felt that some reiteration by the Deans of what Dr. Tee advises would be beneficial.

Academic Affairs is requesting the **General Education Committee** to consider whether certain courses already required in various majors will meet the requirements in general education that had not heretofore been accepted. Evaluating the General Education requirements is a part of reducing the number of credit hours for a baccalaureate degree to 120. Since some departments are already evaluating their degree requirements, some concern was expressed they may reduce them and then if the General Education requirements are reduced, they may then be under the 120 credit hours. The Deans Council made a motion that the verbiage regarding electives be included in the departmental major listings stating "elective hours required to reach the (specific number of hours) required in the degree program." This will eliminate the concern that the number of elective hours may change if the General Education program is revised.

The **Deans Council** met with the **Honors Committee**. It was felt that was a productive meeting. The only additional suggestion was that we need to have good publicity and a nice publication for all new honors students with people to contact, places to go, etc.

The **Deans Council** is considering changes to the current **course substitution forms** and implementing a new transfer transcript evaluation form for courses in the major to eliminate the need to complete so many individual course forms. Once the Council has developed a draft form, it will be discussed with the Registrar to ensure it meets the records requirements for that office and then wider comments will be sought.

There is a need for each **Department** to have a **class rotation schedule** to apprise students of the semester when classes in that department are usually offered and whether in the day or night. This will assist students in planning their schedules so they are able to enroll in their required courses in order to graduate by their target date. The goal is to eliminate students being unable to graduate because of not taking one or two classes because they "assumed" they would be offered by their time for graduate. It was suggested each College Bulletin implore students to request the course rotation schedule from the department of their major.

A compilation of **accomplishments of the administrative areas** of the University was prepared for the Board of Governors and various other campus groups. The Academic Affairs portion comprised the major portion of the document because we included accomplishments from each college together with on-going activities and concerns. The goal of compiling this document was to report on those good things happening here at WVSU that usually are not published in the media.