

**COMMITTEE ON SCHOLASTIC STANDARDS AND PETITIONS**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2014-2015**

**Members of the committee:**

Elected

Peter Binev, chair,	Mathematics (2015)
Kirk Foster,	Social Work (2015)
Rishi Chakraborty,	Public Health (2016)
Candle Wester,	Law Library (2016)
Susan Poslusny,	Nursing (2017)
Kathy Snediker,	Libraries (2017)

Ex-Officio

Scott Verzyl,	Admissions
Aaron Marterer,	Registrar's Office

Appointed

Haley Anderson,	Student
Clayton Armstrong,	Student

New elected members starting Fall 2015

Susan Rathbun-Grubb,	SLIS (2018)
Ernest Wiggins,	Journalism (2018)

**Face-to-Face Meetings:**

September 9, 2014

October 8, 2014

May 7, 2015

In addition to these meetings, the committee used e-mail communication to discuss several topics and vote on them.

Also, in Spring 2015 the chair of the Committee met a few times with representatives of the Palmetto College to discuss the issues with changes of grading policy and the related motion adopted by the Faculty Senate on December 3, 2014.

**Proposals Considered**

Actions Required Before Consideration of Changes to the Grading Policy, in response to a proposal for changing the grading policy by a faculty representative to the Faculty Senate from Darla Moore School of Business submitted on October 3, 2013. The Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions appreciates the complexity of changing the grading system and devoted several meetings to discuss the related

issues in 2013-2014 and Fall 2014. The Committee also initiated a survey about the grading system among the faculty at Columbia campus in Spring 2014. The main issue for initiating any changes of the grading system is that they have to be implemented simultaneously in all campuses of the entire USC system. The committee understands that similar conversations must occur in all the campuses before discussing whether and how the grading policy can be changed. Additionally, the Committee recognizes the lack of a formal infrastructure for Faculty Senates within the USC system to conference on policies that impact all campuses and, therefore, urges the Faculty Advisory Committee to establish such a formal structure recognizing the independence of each senate. Based on this the Committee proposed a motion to empower the Faculty Advisory Committee to establish a formal procedure for communication between faculty senates in the USC system. The motion also included a list of some necessary procedural considerations to be resolved before the eventual adoption of a new grading system. The Faculty Senate adopted the motion on December 3, 2014.

Transfer Credit Policy, proposed by the University Registrar and reviewed by the Associate and Assistant Deans Council on October 24, 2014. This proposal clears the wording of the transfer credit policy in the Undergraduate Bulletin and explains better the process of evaluating the transcripts of students transferring from another institution. The Faculty Senate adopted the changes on December 3, 2014.

Professional Program Admission Requirements, proposed by the College of Education on October 8, 2014. This proposal considers changes related to the GPA requirement for progression and admission to the undergraduate Teacher Education programs. It is in response to the SC Department of Education requirement for teacher education programs in SC for increase in minimum GPA requirements sent on January 16, 2014. The Faculty Senate adopted the changes on December 3, 2014.

Transfer Policy Change, recommended by the Associate and Assistant Deans Council on April 23, 2015. This proposal allows students to transfer a course taken at another institution if the course was previously dropped with a W at USC. Since transfer and USC courses are equivalent and are no university restrictions on repeating a course at USC, there should likewise be no restriction on repeating such courses at transfer institutions. The Faculty Senate adopted the changes on June 3, 2015.

### **Annual Reports of the College Committees**

Thirteen Colleges and Schools submitted their reports about the students' petitions and basic statistics about them during the academic year 2014-2015. The distribution of the reported 1343 petitions is shown in the attached report.

### **Chair for the 2015-2016 academic year**

The committee elected Dr. Kathy Snediker (Libraries) as Chair for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Respectfully submitted on September 30, 2015, by  
Peter Binev, Chair 2014-2015

## University Committee on Scholastic Standards and Petitions Annual Report for 2014-2015 Academic Year

College/School	Number of Petitions Received	Type of Petition								Action Taken				
		Early reinstatement from suspension	Relief from admission requirements	Relief from progression requirements	Relief from graduation requirements	Withdrawal for extenuating circumstances	Transient status during last 25% of coursework	Course substitution	Other	Approval Without Conditions	Approval With Conditions	Disapproval	No Action	Other
College of Arts and Sciences	651	26	278		52	57	143	95		303	294	51	2	1
Darla Moore School of Business	37	4	3	20		5	5				35	2		
College of Education	54		12	22		9	7	4		33	4	17		
College of Engineering and Computing	165	16	55	30	11	20	3	16	14	85	22	56	2	
College of Hospitality, Retail and Sport Management	307	8	64	89	18	5	25	56	42	248	15	43	1	
College of Information and Communications	45					7	16	3	19	42	1	2		
School of Law	27	13				11			3	14	10	3		
School of Music	12		2		1	1	2	3	3	10	1	1		
College of Nursing	10		2	8						2	2	6		
College of Pharmacy	4	1		2		1				2	1	1		
Arnold School of Public Health	24	1	2	2		16	1		2	19	1	4		
College of Social Work	6	3			1			1	1	3		3		
Honors College	1					1				1				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1343</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>762</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>