

UNIVERSITY SENATE MINUTES  
February 5, 2010: 1:45 pm, Rowan Hall Auditorium

**ATTENDEES:** Herb Appelson, Smitesh Bakrania, Tom Bendtsen, Mark Berkey-Gerard, Lori Block, Kate Boland, Gregory Caputo, Joe Cassidy, Doug Cleary, David Clowney, Nadine Connell, Jennifer Courtney, Joel Crichlow, Ronald Czocho, Larry Depasquale, Robert D’Intino, Carol Eigenbrot, Jon Foglein, Bill Freind, Zenaida Gephardt, Eddie Guerra, Roberta Harvey, Julie Haynes, Greg Hecht, Marlena Herman, Susan Hersh, Jerry Hough, Habib Jam, Valerie Lee, Lili Levinowitz, Phillip Lewis, Janet Lindman, Douglas Mapp, Lawrence Markowitz, Jacqueline McCafferty, Corinne Meredith, Phyllis Meredith, Eric Milou, Anne Phillips, Robi Polikar, Peter Rattigan, Will Riddell, Connie Rosenberger, Lane Savadove, Nick Schmelz, Richard Scott, Kathleen Sernak, Sonia Spencer, Don Stoll, Pat Alexy Stoll, Eileen Stutzbach, Skeffington Thomas, Jia Wang, Patrick Westcott, Dex Whittinghill, Tricia Yurak, Ieva Zake.

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE: (Represented by Alternates)** Marlena Herman represented by Olcay Ilicasu, Demond Miller represented by Mary Gallant.

**NOT IN ATTENDANCE:** Joe Basso, Bruce Caswell, Dorie Gilchrist, Karen Haynes, Erin Herberg, Diana Nicolae (3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive absence), Midge Shuff.

1. Approval of Agenda – moved, seconded, approved
2. Introductions of Visitors – MaryBeth Walpole, Jay Chaskes, and Jill Steier – Student Government Association representative to the Board of Trustees
3. Approval of Minutes from December 2009 (separate file) – moved, seconded, approved
4. President’s Report (page 3)
5. Jay Chaskes spoke about the Wheelchairs for Haiti project and encouraged contributions. A wheelchair has been designed by Ralph Hodgekiss at San Francisco State University and distributed through the nonprofit organization, Whirlwind Wheelchair International, specifically for use in developing countries. The cost is a very reasonable \$220 per chair. These wheelchairs are shipped from Mexico and Vietnam. In developing countries, people in need of wheel chairs, who don’t have them, are often left to scramble around as best they can or to live a life of relative isolation from society. In many cases these wheelchairs are “life saving” equipment. The ultimate goal is to have a wheelchair factory built in Haiti, at a cost of \$200,000. Anyone who would like to make a donation should make checks payable to the Rowan University Foundation with “Wheelchairs for Haiti” in the memo line. There was an announcement about this in the Rowan Daily News last week and there will be another such announcement coming again soon. Go to [whirlwindwheelchair.org](http://whirlwindwheelchair.org) to see a video about this project.
6. MaryBeth Walpole  
Safe Zone, a training workshop to help faculty and staff support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender, LGBT, community is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb 10th at 11:00-12:00 or 12:15 – 1:00PM in the Student Center Ballroom. Training will include discussion of the identity process and the various resources on campus. Those who plan to attend should respond to Elaine Mann, [manne@rowan.edu](mailto:manne@rowan.edu), so there will be enough food for everyone. These training sessions are open to faculty and staff (including secretaries – as they are often the front line people in any department office that students are interacting with first).
7. Election of Senate Executive Committee Member-at-Large – Cindy Vitto has been named Interim Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, which has left her Senate-At-Large seat empty. The person with the next highest number of votes in that Senate election was Douglas Cleary,

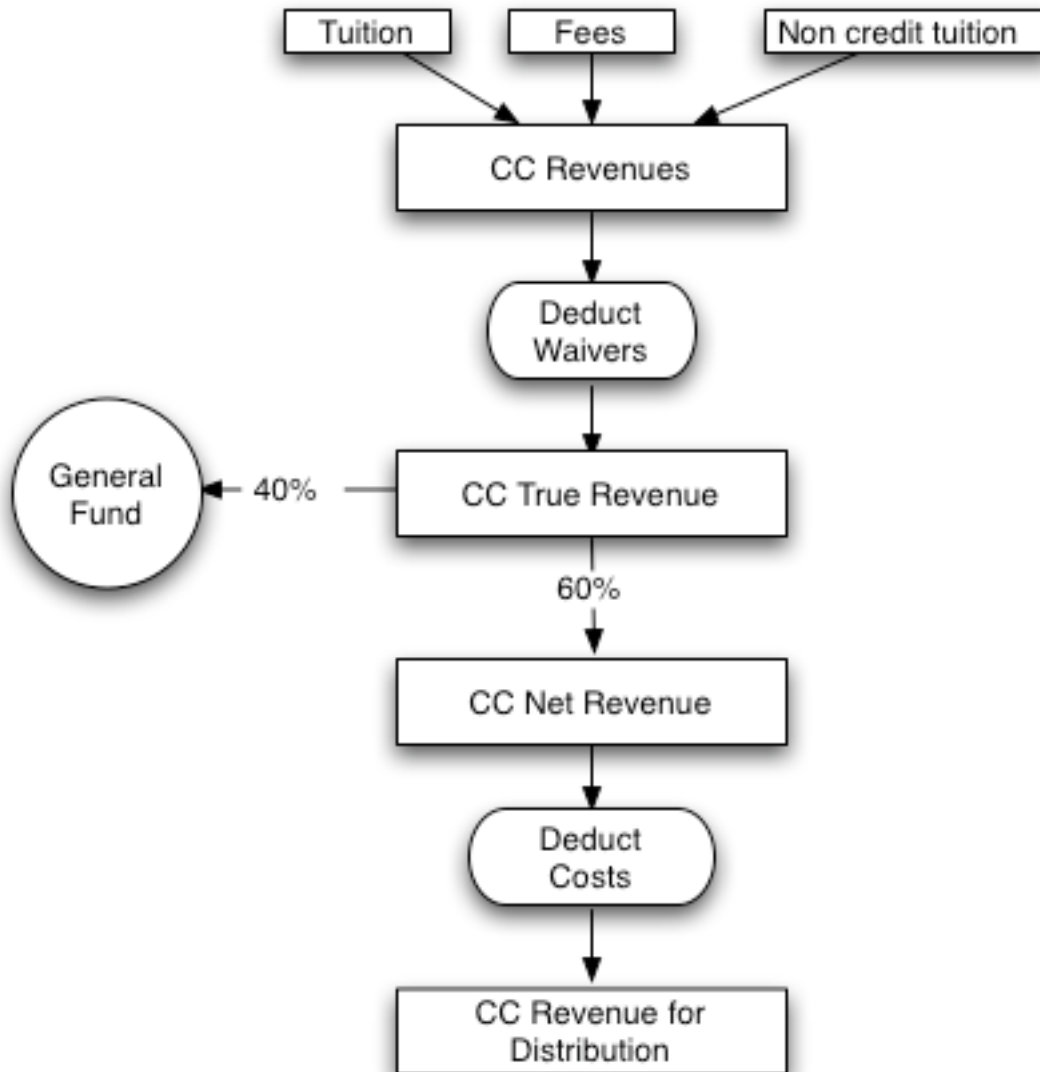
who has agreed to take Cindy's Senate position to fill out her term. Cindy was also Senate-at-large representative to the Senate Executive Committee. A unanimous ballot was cast for Eddie Guerra to fill the Senate-at-large position, motion moved, seconded, passed.

8. Standing Committees & Task Forces
  - a. Curriculum Committee
    - i. Curriculum Committee Report (pages 7-10) – Six Process C curriculum changes were accepted. The minor in Business Spanish passed with one abstention, all others passed unanimously.
  - b. Academic Policies & Procedures Resolution
    - i. **Withdrawal** of Resolution Allowing Undergraduate Students to Opt Out of an Early Poor GPA (page 11) Motion made to withdraw last month's version of the resolution, seconded, passed. New version submitted with addition of the previously "supplemental" information incorporated as part of the new policy. Many other institutions have a policy such as this and call it a "GPA fresh start."
    - ii. 1<sup>st</sup> reading: Resolution Permitting GPA Forgiveness for Poor Performance during the First Year (pages 12-13) – Senators should take this back to departments for discussion. Final vote next month. Decisions for implementation of this policy would rest with the Administration. Some numbers regarding how many students might be eligible to benefit from something like this – last year 163 students had less than a 1.9 GPA, 51 of these students left the university. 22 of these 51 students left with under a 1.0 GPA and 15 of these students left without giving a reason.
9. Interim policy change regarding hardship withdrawals (page 14) – This interim policy has been put in effect by the administration – the Senate is being asked to take action to make the interim policy official. It is surmised that the term "drop" was used incorrectly when the original policy was written and probably was never the intention to wipe out all record of the student being registered for the course. This should be handled as a late withdrawal, not a hardship withdrawal.
10. New Business - none
11. Adjournment at 3:01PM

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1. Cost Center Model Update (page 4) Complete diagram would show three separate funnels – for Summer School, Graduate School and CPCE.
2. Ieva Zake - new Honors Coordinator
3. Rory McElwee - new Rowan Seminar Coordinator (Fall 2009)
4. Ad-Hoc committee on Centers & Coordinators (page 5) - Is anyone interested in serving on this committee with Ed Streb? If so, contact Eric or Ed.
5. A-4327: Establishes NJ PLACE (New Jersey Pathways Leading Apprentices to a College Education) program to facilitate college credit for registered apprenticeship programs. (page 6)
6. Medical School Advisory Committee Update
7. Search Committee for VP for Advancement (Mary McRae's replacement). University has contracted with Witt/Kieffer. The position is already being advertised, but won't get to the interview stage for a while yet.
8. Open hearing on the Strategic Enrollment Management Task Force report – Feb 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:45pm in Lib 326 - report can be downloaded at:  
<http://www.rowan.edu/provost/taskforce/documents/StudEnrollMgtTaskForce-FinalReport-Aug102009.pdf>
9. Reorganization - Endorsed by a Board of Trustees Resolution
  - a) Creation of Office of Student Academic Services for the Medical School
    - i. Director, Ed Eigenbrot
    - ii. Entirely funded by the Medical School Appropriation
  - b) Creation of Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE)
    - i. Director, Mira Lalovic-Hand
  - c) Dissolve Institutional Research and Planning (IRP)
    - i. The responsibilities of this office will now lie in the OIE
  - d) Rename CPCE the College of Graduate & Professional Education (CGPE)
    - i. Home of CPCE, Graduate School, and Summer School
    - ii. One revenue sharing model for all three
    - iii. Graduate Executive Council elects a chairperson
  - e) Creation of Office of Enrollment Management
    - i. External search for director
    - ii. Funded by a \$15 increase in application fee (to \$65 which is the average of our competitors).
  - f) International Center to follow Cost Center Model

## Revenue Sharing Model



### Questions

1. How is net revenue distributed? What percent to Provost, Deans, Department, etc...
2. We must create rules of engagement on ...
  - a. By what procedure is money spent
  - b. On what is money spent?
  - c. Carry over rules?
  - d. Reserves?
  - e. Seed funds to launch new programs
  - f. Clearly define "costs"
3. Must be reviewed annually
4. Rules for additional new programs to the "Revenue Sharing Model" as well as deletion of those programs that do not generate profit

Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Center & Coordinators
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Committee Members: Ed Streb (chairperson),

Charge: To collect, analyze, and disseminate information with respect to the various coordinators and advisory boards on campus. Suggestions on standardizing the process for appointments and advisory boards should be included. Data on the center/coordinators listed below should be collected.

- Faculty Center
- International Center
- Honors Coordinator
- Exploratory Studies Coordinator
- Asian Studies Coordinator
- Liberal Studies Coordinators
  - American Studies
  - Humanities SS
  - Math/Science
- Liberal Arts & Sciences Institute
- Environmental Studies
- Women & Gender Studies
- Rowan Seminar Coordinator

The committee should deliver a summary report to the University Senate President no later than May 1, 2010.

## Transfer of Academic Credits from Apprenticeships

Assembly Bill No. 4327 expands the Statewide Transfer Agreement between the county colleges and senior public colleges and universities to include apprenticeship credits. The New Jersey Pathways Leading Apprentices to a College Education program (NJ PLACE) created an associate's degree in applied science in technical studies, into which students can transfer credits for time spent in apprenticeships. The legislation expands the Statewide Transfer Agreement to include completed associate's degrees in applied science in technical studies that have credits transferred by the NJ PLACE program from apprenticeship programs. The transfer agreement must be adopted by January 1, 2011 and operational by September 1, 2011. Acting Governor Sweeney signed the bill on January 14, 2010.

## Report of the University Curriculum Committee

February 5, 2010

Submitted by Janet Moore Lindman

**Process C**

<b>SCC#</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Department</b>
09-10-101	Business	Post-MBA CAGS in Business Administration	All departments in college
09-10-500	Fine & Performing Arts	Specialization in Theatre: Theatre Education and Musical Theatre Tracks	Theatre/Dance
09-10-704	Liberal Arts & Sciences	MA in Applied Behavior Analysis	Psychology
09-10-602	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Minor in Business Spanish	Foreign Language & Literatures
09-10-612	Liberal Arts & Sciences	BA/MA Dual Degree Program in History	History
09-10-613	Liberal Arts & Sciences	MA in History	History

**Process B**

<b>SCC#</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Department</b>
09-10-514	FPA/Engineering	Signals, Systems, and Music	Electrical and Computer Engineering/Music
09-10-603	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Accelerated Business Spanish I	Foreign Language and Literatures
09-10-604	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Accelerated Business Spanish II	Foreign Language and Literatures
09-10-605	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Accelerated Business Spanish III	Foreign Language and Literatures
09-10-619	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to Buddhism	Philosophy & Religion
09-10-620	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to the Bible	Philosophy & Religion
09-10-621	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to Daoism	Philosophy & Religion
09-10-622	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Aesthetics/Aesthetics WI	Philosophy & Religion
09-10-813	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Community Health Nursing	Biological Sciences

**Process A**

<b>SCC#</b>	<b>College</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Department</b>
09-10-100	Business	Legal Aspects of HR	Management/Entrepreneurship
09-10-103	Business	Financial Decision Making	Accounting/Finance
08-09-111	Business	Advanced Financial Planning	Accounting/Finance
08-09-119	Business	Leadership & Supervision for Managers	Management/Entrepreneurship
09-10-200	Communication	Electronic Media Copywriting	PR/Advertising
09-10-201	Communication	Advanced Public Relations Writing	PR/Advertising
09-10-204	Communication	Broadcast Journalism: Radio	Journalism
09-10-205	Communication	Broadcast Journalism: News Writing	Journalism
09-10-206	Communication	Copy Editing	Journalism
09-10-207	Communication	Feature Writing	Journalism
09-10-208	Communication	Media Ethics	Journalism
09-10-209	Communication	Online Journalism I	Journalism
09-10-213	Communication	Evaluation Writing	Writing Arts
09-10-215	Communication	Sound Composition 2	Radio/TV/Film
09-10-216	Communication	Participatory Media	Writing Arts
09-10-301	Education	School Nursing Post-Baccalaureate Certification Program	Special Education
09-10-310	Education	Curriculum Instruction & Transition in Special Education	Special Education
09-10-311	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-312	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education

09-10-313	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-314	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-315	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-316	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-317	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-318	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-319	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-320	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-321	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-322	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-323	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-324	Education	Counseling in Educational Settings	Special Education
09-10-328	Education	Understanding & Designing Curriculum for Young Children	Teacher Education
09-10-329	Education	Emergent Literacy & Assessment for Young Children	Teacher Education
09-10-330	Education	Family, Community & Professional Ethics	Teacher Education
09-10-332	Education	English as Second Language – COGS	Teacher Education
09-10-333	Education	Linguistics for Teaching 2 <sup>nd</sup> Languages ESL	Teacher Education
09-10-334	Education	Language, Culture & Communication ESL	Teacher Education
09-10-336	Education	Integrating Language & Content in the ESL/Bilingual Classroom	Teacher Education
09-10-337	Education		
09-10-338	Education	Dual Majors for Elementary Ed Subject Matter Education	Teacher Education
09-10-339	Education	Contemporary Health I	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-340	Education	Contemporary Health II	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-341	Education	Foundations of Health Promotion & Fitness Management	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-342	Education	Administration of Promotion & Fitness Management	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-343	Education	Health Behavior	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-344	Education	School Health Program Planning	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-345	Education	Safety, First Aid, and Basic Understanding of Athletic Injuries	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-346	Education	Rhythmic Activities & Forms	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-347	Education	Structure & Function of Human Body I	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-348	Education	Structure & Function of Human Body II	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-349	Education	Foundations of Fitness & Motor Development	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-350	Education	Technology & Assessment of HES	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-352	Education	Exercise Physiology (without lab)	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-353	Education	Exercise for Special Populations	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-354	Education	Health & Physical Education Curriculum Instruction	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-355	Education	Adapted Physical Education	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-356	Education	Therapeutic Modalities in Athletic Training	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-357	Education	Pharmacology & General Medicine in Athletic Training	Health & Exercise Science
09-10-358	Education	Teaching Literacy	Reading
09-10-359	Education	Minor in Reading	Reading
09-10-360	Education	Teaching Reading in Content Areas	Reading
09-10-361	Education	Teaching Reading Across Grades	Reading
09-10-362	Education	Administration & Supervision of School Reading	Reading
09-10-363	Education	Diagnosis of Remedial Reading Problems	Reading
09-10-364	Education	Corrections in Remedial Reading Problems	Reading
09-10-365	Education	Using Multicultural Literature in K-12 Reading and Writing Classrooms	Reading



09-10-366	Education	Applications Research Seminar I: School Psychology	Special Education
09-10-367	Education	Applications Research Seminar II: School Psychology	Special Education
09-10-368	Education	Leadership Applications Fieldwork and Seminar	Educational Leadership
09-10-369	Education	Remove 3 courses	Educational Leadership
09-10-370	Education	Planning & Negotiating	Educational Leadership
09-10-371	Education	Action Research in Educational Leadership	Educational Leadership
09-10-372	Education	Move Library School Courses from Special Ed to Reading	Reading
09-10-373	Education	Managing Library Programs	Special Education
09-10-374	Education	School Media Centers for Teaching and Learning	Special Education
09-10-375	Education	Library Technology	Special Education
09-10-376	Education	Practicum in Library Services	Special Education
09-10-377	Education	Minor in Education	Teacher Education
09-10-378	Education	Mathematics Pedagogy	Teacher Education
09-10-379	Education	Leadership Through Professional Learning Communities	Teacher Education
09-10-380	Education	BA in Education: Early Childhood	Teacher Education
09-10-381	Education	BA in Education: Subject Matter	Teacher Education
09-10-382	Education	BA in Education: Health & Physical Education	Teacher Education
09-10-383	Education	BA in Education: Elementary Education	Teacher Education
09-10-384	Education	Elementary Art Methods: Teaching and Learning Art A	Teacher Education
09-10-385	Education	Elementary General Music: Teaching and Learning A	Teacher Education
09-10-386	Education	Teaching Science	Teacher Education
09-10-387	Education	Teaching Social Sciences: Learning A	Teacher Education
09-10-388	Education	Teaching & Learning Communities II: Music	Teacher Education
09-10-389	Education	Teaching & Learning Communities II: Art	Teacher Education
09-10-390	Education	Teaching & Learning Communities II: Health & Physical Education	Teacher Education
09-10-391	Education	Teaching & Learning Communities II: Early Childhood Education	Teacher Education
09-10-392	Education	Teaching & Learning Communities II	Teacher Education
09-10-393	Education	Leadership Research Project	Educational Leadership
09-10-395	Education	Conducting & Analyzing Qualitative Research	Educational Leadership
09-10-396	Education	Teaching & Learning A: Mathematics	Teacher Education
09-10-397	Education	Teaching & Learning A: Foreign Languages	Teacher Education
09-10-398	Education	Curriculum Assessment in Elementary Classrooms	Teacher Education
09-10-399	Education	Teaching & Learning A: English Language	Teacher Education
09-10-509	Fine & Performing Arts	Computers Technology in Music I	Music
09-10-510	Fine & Performing Arts	Computers Technology in Music II	Music
09-10-511	Fine & Performing Arts	New Jazz Structures	Music
09-10-512	Fine & Performing Arts	Selected Topics in Music	Music
09-10-600	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Islamic Civilization	History
09-10-601	Liberal Arts & Sciences	American Revolution & Early Republic	History
09-10-606	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Accelerated Business Spanish Reading and Conversation	Foreign Language & Literatures
09-10-607	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Spanish for Business	Foreign Language & Literatures
09-10-608	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Spanish for Business B	Foreign Language & Literatures

09-10-609	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Race, Identity & History in East Asia	History
09-10-610	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Late Imperial China	History
09-10-611	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Graduate Independent Study	History
09-10-614	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Masters Thesis in History I	History
09-10-615	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Masters Thesis in History II	History
09-10-617	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Readings & Research in History I	History
09-10-618	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Readings & Research in History II	History
09-10-623	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Philosophy of Religion	Philosophy/Religion
09-10-700	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Ethnic Minorities in China	Sociology
09-10-707	Liberal Arts & Sciences	COGS in Applied Behavioral Analysis	Psychology
09-10-711	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Sociology of Migration: Contemporary Perspective	Sociology
09-10-712	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Sociology of Ethnicity & Politics	Sociology
09-10-717	Liberal Arts & Sciences	GIS II: Geospatial Modeling	Geography/Anthropology
09-10-718	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Geovisualization	Geography/Anthropology
09-10-719	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Senior Seminar in Environmental Studies	Geography/Anthropology
09-10-720	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Field Methods & Research Design	Geography/Anthropology
09-10-721	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Russian, East European, and Eurasian Politics	Political Science
09-10-814	Liberal Arts & Sciences	College Geometry	Mathematics
09-10-815	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Calculus II	Mathematics
09-10-816	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Stochastic Models in Operations Research	Mathematics
09-10-817	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Calculus III	Mathematics
09-10-818	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Linear Algebra	Mathematics
09-10-819	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Accelerated Calculus II	Mathematics
09-10-820	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Numerical Analysis	Mathematics
09-10-821	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Ordinary Differential Equations	Mathematics
09-10-822	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Partial Differential Equations	Mathematics
09-10-823	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Probability & Random Variables	Mathematics
09-10-824	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Theory of Numbers	Mathematics
09-10-825	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Patterns in Nature I: Visual Geometry	Mathematics
09-10-826	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Patterns in Nature II: Projects in Calculus	Mathematics
09-10-827	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Math Seminar	Mathematics
09-10-828	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Mathematical Statistics	Mathematics
09-10-829	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Deterministic Models in Operations Research	Mathematics
09-10-830	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to Complex Analysis	Mathematics
09-10-831	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Applications of Math	Mathematics
09-10-832	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Technological Tools for Discovering Math	Mathematics
09-10-833	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to Real Analysis I	Mathematics
09-10-834	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Modern Algebra I	Mathematics
09-10-835	Liberal Arts & Sciences	History of Math	Mathematics
09-10-836	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Modern Algebra II	Mathematics
09-10-837	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Introduction to Real Analysis II	Mathematics
09-10-838	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Statistics I	Mathematics
08-09-905	Liberal Arts & Sciences	Asian Studies Program – change from 21 to 18 credits	Asian Studies Program

**Resolution Allowing Undergraduate Students to Opt Out of an Early Poor GPA**

**WHEREAS**, for a variety of reasons, some freshman undergraduate students perform very poorly when they first come to the University and end up leaving with a weak academic record;

**AND WHEREAS**, such students may wish to return later, having matured or otherwise resolved the issues that caused their earlier poor performance;

**AND WHEREAS**, these students would be discouraged or prohibited from returning to Rowan if the earlier poor performance remained part of their record, and since they could go elsewhere and choose not to report their previous academic record;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**,

that undergraduate students who started at Rowan University as native freshmen, earned a cumulative GPA less than 2.0 during their first academic year at Rowan University, and have not attended classes at Rowan University for a minimum of two consecutive years may apply via a written request to the Academic Dismissal Committee asking to have their grades forgiven and their GPA restarted at 0.0.

- ✦ The **maximum** cumulative GPA that could be forgiven will be 1.9.
- ✦ A **maximum of** 36 attempted credits could be forgiven (based on the normal maximum number of credits permitted).
- ✦ Rowan University courses in which the student received a C or better will automatically be accepted as transfer credits. The grades will not count toward GPA.
- ✦ Students seeking to have their grades forgiven are required to write a statement requesting to be readmitted under the policy and presenting evidence of readiness and/or continuing progress, such as successful completion of 24 credits at a community college or another accredited institution, regular employment, or military service.
- ✦ Approvals would be handled by the Academic Dismissal Committee, which hears appeals from students requesting reinstatement in the University.
- ✦ The policy would not apply to graduate students.

**Resolution Permitting GPA Forgiveness for Poor Performance During the First Year**

**WHEREAS**, for a variety of reasons, some freshman undergraduate students perform very poorly when they first come to the University and end up leaving with a weak academic record;

**AND WHEREAS**, such students may wish to return later, having matured or otherwise resolved the issues that caused their earlier poor performance;

**AND WHEREAS**, these students would be discouraged or prohibited from returning to Rowan if the earlier poor performance remained part of their GPA, and since they could go elsewhere and choose not to report their previous academic record;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**,

that undergraduate students who started at Rowan University as native freshmen, earned a cumulative GPA less than 2.0 during their first academic year at Rowan University, **left the University after their first academic year**, and have not attended classes at Rowan University for a minimum of two consecutive years may apply to have their grades forgiven and their GPA restarted at 0.0.

**Conditions and procedures:**

- The **maximum** cumulative GPA that could be forgiven will be less than **2.0**.
- The grades for a **maximum of 36** attempted credits could be forgiven (based on the normal maximum number of credits permitted).
- **A student requesting GPA forgiveness is subject to existing procedures and timelines for re-registering or reapplying as appropriate. In addition, the student must provide a written statement requesting GPA forgiveness and presenting evidence of readiness and/or continuing progress, such as successful completion of 24 credits at a community college or another accredited institution, regular employment, or military service. The student may be asked to provide documentation of the problem that contributed to the original poor performance and/or actions taken to remedy the problem.**
- Rowan University courses in which the student received a C or better will automatically be accepted as transfer credits. The grades will not count toward GPA. The credits may count toward graduation, but will not count toward the required minimum of 30 credits taken in residency. No credit will be granted for courses in which a C- or lower was earned.
- The policy would not apply to graduate students.

**Additional provisions:**

1. **The option provided by this policy is intended only for students in dire circumstances and should not be construed as desirable or advantageous. The criteria for transfer credits are stricter than for normal situations. The required documentation is similar to what would be required for students seeking reinstatement following academic dismissal. The policy is not intended to supplant existing policies and procedures governing academic performance problems that are resolvable by the student through a relatively minor correction or temporary hiatus. These other policies and procedures include:**

- Retaking a course to improve the grade
- Academic probation
- Academic dismissal
- Withdrawal from a course or courses
- Leave of absence

GPA forgiveness pertains to situations that are catastrophic and require a more intensive recovery period or growth process, such as:

- Extreme difficulty adjusting to academic expectations
- Severe illness
- Emotional or psychological trauma
- Substance abuse

2. According to current University policy, conferral of academic honors at Commencement is based on the student's GPA at the end of the first term of the senior year. The GPA must be based on a minimum of 36 semester hours of course work completed at Rowan University. A student exercising the option described in this policy will have met this minimum if he/she successfully complete his/her studies at Rowan and is therefore eligible for academic honors at Commencement. The required 36 semester hours earned at Rowan do not include Rowan courses accepted for transfer credit as permitted by this policy.
3. The student should be advised that although his/her GPA is being restarted at 0.0, his/her academic record remains intact. The complete transcript will show the grades that were forgiven, and it is possible that employers, licensing or certifying agencies, or graduate school admissions committees will use the student's "unadjusted" GPA for purposes of determining eligibility.

### **Recommendations for implementation:**

- The Admissions Office, Registrar's Office, Career and Academic Planning Center, Academic Success Center, Dean of Students, and all academic programs should be consulted regarding implementation to ensure alignment with existing policies and procedures.
- Advisors will play a significant role in counseling students who have a poor first year and assisting them in choosing the best course of action for rectifying their situation. A specific mechanism for informing students who are leaving or re-entering the University of the option may need to be developed.
- As noted in the policy, a student exercising this option will follow existing procedures for re-registering or reapplying, depending on the circumstances of his/her leaving the University and the timeframe for his/her return. This is handled by the Admissions Office or the Registrar's Office. Evaluation and approval of the request for GPA forgiveness is an academic matter and should be a separate procedure. We recommend that this evaluation be performed by either individual representatives of academic programs (such as assistant deans or professional advisors) or a committee of such representatives.

## Interim policy change regarding hardship withdrawals and resolution from APP

Normally, withdrawal from a course results in a W on the student's transcript with no refund and no impact on student financial aid status. However, a withdrawal during the last four weeks of the semester, termed a "hardship withdrawal," actually functions as if the student were dropping the course. The course disappears from the student's record and, if the student drops below full-time status, results in the student's financial aid being revoked.

This is not the intended effect of withdrawing from a course, so the Provost's Office is instituting an interim policy change and has requested that APP bring a formal resolution to the Senate for approval. The interim policy change and requested resolution will address this issue by specifying the following:

- ✦ The term "hardship withdrawal" will be changed to "late withdrawal."
- ✦ Late withdrawal will be treated as other withdrawals currently are, resulting in a W on the student's transcript and no impact on financial aid status.
- ✦ This may also include discussion of approvals for late withdrawals (whether the student's advisor, the Dean of Students, etc. should be involved).

APP will bring a resolution to the next meeting of the Senate Exec. In the meantime, please let me know of any questions or concerns.