

# Senate Scholastic Standards Committee

Minutes 3/4/2025

MS Teams

Co-Chairs: Karen Bresciano, Jamie Kleinman

\*Karen Bresciano, Co-Chair, The Graduate School  
\*Jamie Kleinman, Co-Chair, CLAS (Avery Point)  
\*Dorothea Anagnostopoulos, Neag School of Education (*absent*)  
\*Maureen Armstrong, Dean of Students Office  
\*Kelly Burke, Engineering  
\*David Embrick, CLAS (Hartford) (*absent*)  
\*Holly Fitch, CLAS, Psychological Sciences  
\*Kristen Govoni, CAHNR  
\*Morty Ortega, CAHNR  
\*Jennifer Terni, CLAS  
\*Lawrence Walsh, Office of Admissions  
Erin Ciarimboli, Office of Undergraduate Advising (*absent*)  
Robin Coulter, School of Business  
Sarah Croucher, Provost's Office, Academic Affairs (Ex-Officio Member)  
Jennifer Lease Butts, Honors and Enrichment Program  
Brian Rockwood, Registrar's Office  
Lauren Schlesselman, CETL, Academic Program Assessment  
Christine Wenzel, Center for Students with Disabilities

A. **Approval of Minutes:** [February 18, 2025](#) : minutes approved unanimously

## B. Announcements

- a. Senate By-Laws related to Readmission (Article II, B, 12) 3/3/25 Senate presentation review
  - i. A question was raised regarding the Senate's purview over the removal of criminal history from the application process, and Karen Bresciano shared that this has been raised with the SEC. Holly Fitch stated that they will draft a statement and send it to this committee for co-signatures before sharing it with the SEC regarding their concerns. Jennifer LB mentioned the Community Resource Team as a good place to start that is outside of the Senate. Karen Bresciano Agreed and Holly said that she would draft the letter and send it to CRT leaders.
- b. Senate By-Laws E.9.Class Attendance Resolution: 3/3/25 Senate presentation review
  - i. It was raised that there may be a need to distinguish between when the university is closed, vs when classes are canceled. The committee decided to propose an amendment to the motion when it returns to the Senate floor for a vote.

ii. [Draft Amended Resolution](#)

## C. Old Business

- a. Academic Integrity Discussion Follow-Up: Jamie Kleinman stated that the co-chairs of this committee submitted a letter to the SEC that highlighted the points raised in discussion with this committee, and that the information in the letter was shared with the Provost.
- b. Attendance Discussion/Follow-Up: Jennifer Terni reintroduced the topic, sharing that they will be attending division meetings within CLAS to better understand the faculty interest in looking into this issue in a broader sense. It was also raised that the Office of Financial Aid should be looped into any discussion around policy change that may impact students. Discussion ensued regarding challenges on engagement, as well as concerns regarding faculty presence on-campus since the COVID-19 pandemic. It was suggested that a joint Senate/Admin taskforce be established to tackle these issues, focused on these pillars: (1) culture shift around attendance as a systemic issue negatively impacting students (2) what can we do in the class to increase engagement (3) are there policies or practices currently being utilized that came out of the COVID-19 pandemic that are no longer serving our students, and may be negatively impacting engagement. Jamie Kleinman and Karen Bresciano thanked committee members for their input and will bring this to the SEC on Friday, in the hope that the Faculty Standards Committee can also discuss these issues at their next meeting, and that a mutual effort can be made.
- c. Block Transfer: Larry Walsh shared that this committee will need to take some action regarding Block Transfer approvals at the next meeting. They added that we will plan on a more robust conversation at the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in the hope that an approved list can be put on the consent agenda for the April 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## D. New Business

- a. Removal of “Scholastic Probation” from By-Law language

Pass-Fail Option. A student who is not on scholastic probation may elect a maximum of 12 credits (not including credits on P/F recorded in spring 2020) to be distributed over not more than one course per semester and three courses total, to be recorded as ‘P’ for Pass or ‘F’ for Fail on his or her permanent record. Courses taken Pass-Fail may only be used as electives; they may not be used to satisfy general education, school/college, major or minor requirements. Students who are selecting a course for the Pass-Fail option or want to convert a Pass-Fail back to a graded basis must do so by the eleventh of the semester. Students who convert to a Pass-Fail and then revert the course back to a graded basis cannot again convert the course back to a Pass-Fail. Students seeking to put a course on Pass-Fail after the eleventh week of the semester must get approval from the student’s advisor and from the Dean or designee of the school or college in which the student is enrolled. Approvals are given only for extenuating circumstances beyond the student’s control; poor academic performance is not an extenuating circumstance. For courses taught outside of the fall and spring semesters, these deadlines will be adjusted in a pro-rated fashion by the Registrar.

Article II.B.5:

5. *Full-Time and Part-Time Students*

Students are admitted to the University with full-time status, which requires their carrying at least 12 credits each semester. Students seeking to obtain part-time status, that is, carry fewer than 12 credits, must obtain written approval from the deans of the schools/colleges in which they are enrolled. Part-time students may not participate in any extra-curricular activity involving intercollegiate competition except by permission of the Dean of Students or designee. Part-time status also affects financial aid, **scholastic** probation and dismissal, and could affect eligibility for University housing.

**Article II. B.10:**

In considering a schedule with fewer than 12 credits, a student should consult with an advisor and dean or designee of the school or college in which the student is enrolled. A student considering fewer than 12 credits should note the regulations concerning part-time students, **scholastic** probation and dismissal (see II.B.3, *Improper Registration or Failure to Register*, II.B.4, *Credits Permitted in a Semester* and II.E.12, *Suspension or Expulsion*), and financial aid.

**Article II.E.4:**

4. *Temporary Grades*

Temporary grades signify that credit has not been earned in that course and may subject the student to **scholastic** probation or dismissal. Temporary grades shall not prevent the calculation of either the semester or the cumulative grade point average.

a. *Temporary Grades Related to Incomplete Work*

An instructor may assign a temporary grade for a course when student work is not completed within the semester.

**Tabled until Future Meeting:**

- a. Bunched Finals Discussion
- b. Lab Transfer Credit (hybrid labs)