

## Fall 2015 Policy Campus Review Comments October 26 – November 6, 2015

\*\*The comments below were received from the campus community between October 26 and November 6. The Policy Committee reviewed every comment received and either made the requested change or responded to the comment. The result of the discussion at Policy Committee is in blue below each comment.

### **1B.3 & 1B.3.1 Sexual Violence**

No comments received at this time.

### **2.9 & 2.9.1 Satisfactory Academic Progress**

Staff #1

Would we ever consider changing the completion percentage during a probation semester to 75%?

Over the past year, 46 students were suspended due to their completion rate not being at 100%, but being 75% or higher. The Financial Aid, Advising, and TRIO offices support make this change and therefore, the Policy Committee is recommending changing the threshold to 75%.

Student #1

Summer is perfect time to explore an academic program. Why we cannot let PSEO students to take classes on summer? I think we should let them try.

- PSEO students can take classes in the summer, but they must pay for the classes on their own. State PSEO law only covers costs for students during the fall and spring semester.

Student #2

I would like a clarification about Satisfactory Academic Progress Procedure, Part 8. Treatment of Grades: 7. Consortium Credits: Consortium credits are included only in financial aid progress calculations. What do you mean?

- Consortium credits are those credits taken at another college as part of an academic program, such as our law enforcement program. Students take 21 credits of “skills” at Hennepin Technical College and those 22 credits are used to award the degree from NHCC. The grades received in those credits are used to determine financial aid eligibility, but are not used to determine the student’s academic GPA at NHCC.

Student #3

May I ask why the GPA earned at Hennepin cannot be transfer at NHCC? That decision is MnSCU's decision, NHCC's decision, department of education's decision?

- It is an NHCC decision and our process is consistent with some other community colleges in Minnesota. There are arguments for why a student would want their grades transferred in, especially if the grades are good. However, for every student who earned good grades and wants their grades to transfer in, there is a student who did not earn grades that doesn't want them to transfer in. Some students took classes 15 years ago, didn't do well, and don't want their grades to follow them. So the practice at our college is not to bring those grades in.

### 3.36 & 3.36.1 Degrees and Certificates

Staff #1:

While you're reviewing the Degree and Certificates Procedure, you may want to look at the required AA Course Distribution. It states:

2. Complete at least 3 credits for the Wellness requirement with at least one course from each of the following areas: Health (all courses) and Physical Education (all courses).
3. Complete 17 elective credits selected from all courses listed in the College's offerings, which are numbered 1000 or higher. If the student intends to transfer, he/she is encouraged to work with a counselor or adviser to fulfill requirements for transfer to the other institution.

This is incorrect for all of our AA degrees, on a few counts

- The AA in Liberal Arts requires four credits of Health and Exercise Science. This was changed a few years back.
  - We made the change from 3 credits to 4.
- PE is now Exercise Science
  - We made the change to Exercise Science.
- In our emphasis AAs some require 2 credits of HLTH and EXSC, and some require 4. While I've been told 2 credits is just fine, I've never really found an explanation on why it's inconsistent, but it should be noted somehow.
  - We added language about the AA with emphasis and the credit requirements for emphases.
- The wording about elective credits should be changed to 16, and we should delete the 'selected from all courses listed in the college's offerings', we allow tech credits and other non-equivalent transfer credits.
  - We made these changes to the procedure.

Student #1:

I just want to express my feelings about the residency requirement, I consider that the residency requirement is not an intellectual approach to get graduate. You should be ask why a student wants to graduate with us, instead of number of credits required. Or does North Hennepin

Community college has something special to get graduate here? Or does North Hennepin Community college has anything more intellectual approach to get graduate? In my personal opinion, the residency requirement should be eliminated.

- The threshold the Board of Trustees has set is 15 credits as the minimum number of credits a student can earn from a college and still earn a degree from that college. Therefore, NHCC cannot set the requirement lower than 15.

### **3.50 & 3.50.1 Academic Standards**

No comments received at this time.

### **3.57 & 3.57.1 Grade Appeal**

No comments received at this time.

### **NH II.18 Grading Window**

No comments received at this time.

### **4.9.2 & 4.9.3 Staff Evaluation and Administrator Evaluation**

Faculty #1:

Interesting email from a financial aid staff member today...I think staff/admin needs official evaluations! :)

- Evaluations of staff and administrators already occurs, but these procedures set some guidelines in place so there is consistency in how and when they are done.

Faculty #2:

Regarding all-staff evaluations; I think that's reasonable. I am not aware of the extent to which that currently does NOT happen, but apparently it does not. I'm frequently surprised, in a good way, at receiving occasional requests from administrators to offer comments for their performance evaluations. I guess I'm still amazed at the differences between the work culture on this campus versus my corporate days...

- Evaluations of staff and administrators already occurs, but these procedures set some guidelines in place so there is consistency in how and when they are done.

Faculty #3:

I don't know if this type of comment is something you are looking for, but can it be written into the policy that staff and administrator evaluation must be given during the fall or spring semester (a.k.a. not the middle of summer when no one checks their email).

- When faculty and/or student input is sought on administrators, every effort will be made to seek input during the fall and spring semester. Language added to 4.9.3, Part 5, Subpart C.