



University Senate Archives

University Senate

Academic year 1971-1972

Volume VIII

Admissions & Exceptions Committee Report

Additional information: Digitized by University Libraries Technical Services and archived in SOAR: Shocker Open Access Repository at:
<http://soar.wichita.edu/handle/10057/15267>

Admissions and Exceptions Report

This Committee elects its own Chairman and I am currently serving in my second year in that capacity.

I believe by almost anyone's standards this is a hard working Committee. Last year we met 32 times and have already met 20 times this year. Meetings would average 2-2½ hours.

The Committee is concerned with (1) considering the applications of students with questionable academic credentials, earned here or elsewhere; (2) providing exceptions to the University's own rules concerning eligibility for courses, graduation requirements, and other problems of this type; (3) approving advanced standing exams; (4) other academic questions that arise in the course of the year in which a student and the Catalog come into conflict.

The bulk (probably 90%) of the work of the Committee deals with requests for admissions from students with questionable credentials. The Committee takes its assignment very seriously and it takes some education and orientation to do a good job as a Committee member.

The Committee generally considers the following in reviewing an application: (1) personal statement, (2) previous college work, (3) high school grades, (4) test information such as the ACT, SAT, etc. We are indebted heavily to Dr. Worth Fletcher who spends several hours of preparing a summary document of each case for the Committee. This saves a tremendous amount of time and if ever there was a tedious, unrewarding task this is it.

In the last two years I have arranged for our Testing Office to provide a series of documents for the Committee's use, and we are indebted to Mr. Robert Lautz for its development. Mr. Lautz also sits with the Committee to provide technical help to us as needed.

After a decision is reached an applicant may still have access to the Committee. Dozens of personal interviews are accorded to these students who feel that they have not had an opportunity to adequately explain their circumstances. Most of these interviews are conducted^{by}/the Committee chairman. Such cases are placed for a second review if a candidate requests it.

We have been pleased with the attendance and general contribution of our student members. They feel free to state their opinions and are thoughtful in their approach.

The only problems the Committee experiences have been made known and are currently under consideration by the ad hoc Standards and Practices Committee created by the Senate. It will be most helpful to us when these are resolved.

Perhaps one illustration will suffice, having to do with transfer credits. We have unintentionally penalized students who have gotten into academic trouble here, as compared with their transfer peers. By action of the general faculty we do not count the gpa of transfer students for probation and dismissal purposes. Once admitted transfer students enjoy something of a clean slate. Unfortunately our own previous students are unable to shed their earlier failure except through the route of re-taking courses.

There are other such examples.

Questions.

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

The Admissions Committee elects one of four possible alternatives for every decision made. Two of the four are incorrect decisions; of the two remaining, certainty of a correct decision only pertains to one of the two.

- Decision 1. Accepting an applicant for admission who succeeds.
- Decision 2. Accepting an applicant for admission who fails (Type II Error).
- Decision 3. Rejecting an applicant for admission who would have succeeded (Type I Error).
- Decision 4. Rejecting an applicant for admission who would have failed. (A true decision, but one that cannot be known.)