College of Charleston
Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Assistance
March 27, 1997

Walter Pharr, Chair 96-97
William Lindstrom
Susan Simonian, Secretary
Chip Condon
Paul Allen
Elaine Griffin
Deborah Miller
John Creed

Computer Science
Dean of Undergraduate Studies
Psychology
Business/Economics
English and Communications
Languages
Education
Political Science

The meeting of the Committee for March 27, 1997 was called to order at 12:20 P.M.
The minutes of the last meeting of March 13, 1997 were approved with correction of a
typographical error in the date of the meeting.

petitioned to take nine of her last 37 hours in London, England. The nine hours
are in her major. The petition was approved for nine hours only.

petitioned to transfer 12 units from Trident Technical College. She has 101
earned hours (84 from the College of Charleston). The petition was tabled pending
additional information from the student.

The Sub-committee focused on the College Medical/Mental Health withdrawal policy
discussed its revised policy proposal. Additional issues were discussed and changes to the
revised proposal were suggested. The committee of the whole voted to retain a statement
regarding an individual professor’s right to deny the change of his/her originally assigned
grade to a withdrawal. Susan Simonian will incorporate these changes in the document, and
bring the corrected document to the next committee meeting. Walter Pharr will take the final
version of the document to Andy Abrams for a legal overview.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Simonian
College of Charleston
Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Assistance

The Academic Standards Committee moves that the following changes be made to the Undergraduate Catalog. Pages will be referred to as in the 1996-1997 edition of the Catalog.

(1) The Committee moves that a statute of limitations be applied to the acceptance of credits for readmitted students. On p. 8 the following paragraph should be inserted.

College of Charleston or transfer credits earned ten or more years prior to re-enrollment at the College must be evaluated and revalidated by the appropriate department to be applicable for graduation credit.

Rationale:
In ten years the content of a course could change beyond recognition, even though the title of the course is the same. This statute of limitations would allow a department to have the ability to check on a course ten or more years old and determine whether its content is still suitable to be applicable for graduation credit.

(2) The Committee moves that the title of the section currently called "Absence from Final Examinations" on p. 45 be changed to "Final Examinations".

Rationale:
The section in question deals with other aspects of final examinations as well as absence from them.

(3) The Committee moves that in the section currently called "Absence from Final Examinations" on p. 45, the first sentence be changed from the following

Examinations must be taken at the time scheduled (refer to the appropriate copy of "Course Information" or obtain a copy from the registrar) except when 1) two or more exams are scheduled simultaneously, or 2) the student has three consecutive examinations.

to read as follows.

Examinations must be taken at the time scheduled (refer to the appropriate copy of "Course Information" or obtain a copy from the registrar) except when 1) two or more exams are scheduled simultaneously, or 2) the student has three or more examinations within a 24-hour period.

Rationale:
The existing sentence was written when there were essentially three exam periods per day, morning, afternoon, and evening. Thus the policy was to prevent the student from having three exams in what amounted to a 24-hour period. With the current exam schedule the student could have three exams in 24 hours without the exams being technically consecutive. This change is proposed to reinstate the intent of the previous policy.
(4) The Committee moves that the following change be made in the section titled "Credit for Work at Another Institution and for Study Abroad: Transient Student Status" on p. 48. The second sentence of the paragraph numbered "4." is to be deleted.

Criteria for acceptable transfer credits also apply to transient students.

A separate paragraph is to be added, to read as follows.

Coursework completed at other institutions must have a minimum grade of "C" or its equivalent. Credits awarded as a result of placement testing are not acceptable. Courses graded on a pass/fail basis are acceptable only if the institution where the courses were completed will assign a minimum equivalent of "C" to the "pass" grade.

Rationale:
This is not a change of policy. All of the points made explicit in the above paragraph are implied in the sentence being deleted. College of Charleston students taking courses at other institutions sometimes do not notice the sentence or do not understand what it means. This paragraph, based on the paragraph on p. 6, is intended to make it clear what is meant. (In any case the policy should not be part of paragraph 4, part of the procedure for applying to become a transient student.)
College of Charleston
Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Assistance

The Senate charged the Academic Standards Committee with consideration of the apparent conflict between the faculty member's authority to assign a WA without regard to the withdrawal date and the student's right to withdraw with a W at any time up to the withdrawal date.

The Committee discussed this matter with the Registrar and determined that at this time the student's ability to withdraw does in fact supersede the faculty member's authority to assign a WA. That is, if a faculty member assigns a WA before the last date to drop, and the student subsequently withdraws from the course, still before the last date to drop, the W overwrites the WA.

Upon closely reading the paragraphs in question, the Committee believes that there is no actual conflict. There is nothing in the paragraph discussing the WA that implies that the faculty member's authority to a WA should be able to supersede the student's right to withdraw with a W at any time up to the withdrawal date.

Moreover, the Committee believes that the current state of affairs is as it should be. The student's right to withdraw with a W at any time up to the withdrawal date should take precedence.

Therefore, the Committee's opinion is that no action is needed, and that none should be taken.
College of Charleston
Committee on Academic Standards, Admissions, and Financial Assistance

The Senate charged the Academic Standards Committee with consideration of the system of alternative courses for foreign languages for students with a learning disability.

The Committee has been in the process of reviewing those courses this year. It is the intent of the Committee to rely in the immediate future on the policies and the system of courses, previously approved by the Faculty Senate, that are in use at this time.

The Committee has begun examining the possibility of establishing a set of four courses taught by a language department (initially probably Spanish) and especially designed for students with learning disabilities affecting the learning of a foreign language. A model program of this sort has just begun this year in a consortium of institutions including Harvard, Radcliffe, and Dartmouth.

The Committee will not be able to complete this proposal within the current academic year.