

# Academic Policy Committee

Proposals for the April 23, 1992 Senate Meeting.

## Residency Requirements

To earn a degree from SUNY, College at Old Westbury, students are required to:

1. Earn a minimum of 48 College at Old Westbury credits, and spend at least three academic year semesters (full or part time) at Old Westbury.
2. Alternatively, a student complete the 48 credit requirement by attending two academic year semesters and completing a minimum of 12 of those credits during summer sessions.

Applications for exception to the residency requirements must be submitted to the Academic Policy Committee for approval. Students who choose option 2 to meet their residency requirement will under no circumstances be permitted a wavier of the 48 credit requirement.

Students must verify their fulfillment of all the above requirements with the exception of those credits for which they are currently enrolled at least one semester prior to graduation. The Registrar bears responsibility for verifying the student's fulfillment of the quantitative requirements. The department/program from which the student graduates reserves the right to determine that major requirements have been met.

## Credit/No Credit

A student may elect a credit /no credit option with the permission of the instructor. The student's request must be filed in the Registrar's Office before the end of the third week of the semester. After the third week, this contract may not be entered into or canceled. Courses taken for a grade of CR or NC do not affect the student's GPA.

A student may take one course for credit/ no credit for every 30 credits completed at Old Westbury.

## Conferring of Degrees

In addition to the conferring of degrees in May and December the Academic Policy Committee proposes that the College confer degrees at the end of August for all students who complete all scholastic and graduation requirements by the end of the summer session.

# Readmission Policy for Disqualified Students after Extended Absence (Forgiveness Policy)

This policy applies to students who are seeking readmission to SUNY, College at Old Westbury after an absence of at least one calendar year and who have experienced academic difficulty (a cumulative GPA below 2.00) in their prior experience at Old Westbury.

All students who were not in good academic standing when they left the college and are seeking readmission must complete an Application for Re-entry, available at the Registrar's Office. After review of the application by the appropriate Academic Standing Committee, the student may be given "permission to register" for up to sixteen credit hours of courses. Students who experienced academic difficulties in the past are urged to think in terms of 12 credit hours during the initial semester's work. A decision to take sixteen credit hours should be thoroughly reviewed with their academic advisor.

Upon completion of 24 credits, those students who have achieved at least a 2.00 GPA (for those 24 credits) may apply for 'academic forgiveness' for their SUNY Old Westbury work completed prior to their readmission.<sup>1</sup>

If the student chooses the "forgiveness" option, the following regulations apply:

I. All grades earned at SUNY Old Westbury remain a part of the transcript graduation.

II. For purposes of determining academic status (goodstanding/ warning/ disqualification/graduation) a new (recomputed) cumulative average is determined beginning with the course work completed after the minimum one-year absence.<sup>2</sup>

III. The Student will apply to the Chair/Convener in the department/program in which s/he is majoring or in the case of an undeclared major the student may apply to the Center for Academic Advising and Testing (CAAT). After ensuring that all requirements for academic forgiveness are met, the convener/chair or CAAT will forward the application to Academic Affairs for their approval. The Academic Affairs will notify the Registrar that approval of the "forgiveness" option has been granted.

IV. As a result of being granted forgiveness a student receives credit hours toward the total degree requirement for only those courses taken prior to the student's two year absence from SUNY Old Westbury and in which the student earned a grade of "C" or better.<sup>3</sup>

V. The "forgiveness" option is extended only once during the student's enrollment at SUNY, College at Old Westbury.

## Interpretive Notes:

1. If a student's intention is to continue to pursue a degree on a part time basis once readmitted, then an accumulation of twenty-four credit hours over several semesters may be used to indicate academic success. Students who intend to pursue their degree program full time are expected to complete at least twelve hours (and no more than sixteen) in one semester.

2. This approach allows the student to avoid averaging in the earlier semesters' work. For a student who did very poorly, the normal cumulative process results in repeated disqualification even though current performance is satisfactory. Forgiveness of the earlier cumulative GPA allows the student the opportunity to pursue a degree without facing continuous disqualification.

3. The recomputed cumulative average (point II above), which is used to determine eligibility for graduation, reflects credit hours only (not grades) for those courses in which a "C" or better was earned prior to the permission-to-register semester plus all hours and grades earned since the permission-to-register semester began.