

2017-2018 Academic Affairs Committee Charge 1 from Academic Senate

AA 1

Review D5.1 and consider applying restrictions prohibiting suspended students from participating in other RIT sponsored activities such as student government, Simone Center grants, RIT Clubs and Teams. Make recommendations for associated policy changes and bring them to senate for discussion and vote.

It seems that suspended students are excluded from Division I or III sports, but the policy is not clear on club sports or other activities. Investigate RIT's liability to have non-RIT students on competition clubs, travel representing RIT, or participating in Tiger Tank or other Simone Center activities. Is there a loophole in policy? Should we suspend students from all Campus activities and not just academic activities? Policy D 5.1 Academic Action Policy might be reviewed, in particular the section containing, "a suspended student cannot enroll in any credit or non-credit course at the university while on suspension".

Specific cases are known where students are suspended from RIT but still work for the Simone Center, travel with SAE Competition teams, or participate on other clubs. This charge was suggested by Rob Garrick, who has some data to support the concern.

CURRENT POLICY

D05.1 Academic Actions and Recognitions

II. ACADEMIC PROBATION AND SUSPENSION

A. Undergraduate Policy

An undergraduate student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or above at RIT in order to remain in good academic standing. To help students maintain satisfactory academic performance, RIT has set academic standards that serve to identify, warn, and provide timely intervention to a student who is experiencing academic difficulty.

In addition to the university requirements outlined below, individual colleges and/or programs may define more rigorous requirements for maintaining good academic standing. This information must be approved by the dean, clearly defined within published college policy, communicated in the university bulletin, and communicated to the Provost's Office. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic unit is required.

All probation and academic suspension actions are taken at the end of the fall, spring and summer terms.

Probation refers to the academic action taken when a student is not in good academic standing. A student placed on probation is expected to sufficiently raise his/her GPA in the succeeding term so that the probationary status can be removed. In some circumstances, a student will also be required to satisfy specific conditions required by the home department in the form of an academic contract in order to be removed from probation. Failure to meet

the terms of probation may result in suspension.

Suspension refers to the academic action taken when a student is not permitted to enroll in courses at the university for a period of one calendar year.

1. Any degree-seeking undergraduate student whose term or cumulative grade point average (see D5.0-Grades, section G) falls below a 2.00 (C average) will be placed on probation.
2. Any student who is on probation according to A.1. above and who is not removed from probation in the two succeeding terms (including summer session) in which credit is attempted will be suspended from RIT for a period of one calendar year.
3. Any student who has been placed on probation after having been removed from probation and whose cumulative grade point average is below 2.00 will be suspended.
4. Any student who has been placed on probation after having been removed from probation and whose cumulative grade point average is 2.00 or above will be granted one term to be removed from probation before suspension from RIT.
5. Any student whose term grade point average falls below 1.00 will be suspended from RIT for a period of one calendar year.
6. Students who have been readmitted to their original program after having been suspended and then qualify for probation will be suspended from RIT.
7. A suspended student cannot enroll in any credit or non-credit course at the university while on suspension.
8. A suspended student may appeal a suspension decision. Individual colleges and/or programs may set limitations on the number of appeals a student can submit.
9. A suspension may be waived upon written appeal to the student's home program. Final suspension waiver requires dean (or designee) approval. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic unit in which the enrollment is requested is required.
10. A suspended student may be required to satisfy specific academic conditions imposed by the home department in order to be considered for readmission to his/her program.
11. A suspended student may be admitted to another program if it is approved by the dean (or designee) of the college in which enrollment is requested. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic program in which the enrollment is requested is required.
12. Students must apply through undergraduate admissions for re-admission at the end of their suspension. Such re-admission must be approved by the dean (or his/her designee) of the college for which they are requesting enrollment (this may be the original college or another). For programs housed outside the college structure, the re-admission must be approved by the director (or designee) of the academic unit for which they are requesting enrollment.

B. Graduate Policy

Degree-seeking graduate students will be placed on probation or suspended from the university according to the criteria enumerated below. All actions are taken at the end of the term; however, a student may petition the dean of their home college for reconsideration of probation or suspension should the removal of an incomplete grade (I) raise the program

grade point average above those stated below. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic program in which the enrollment is requested is required.

Each degree-seeking graduate student will generate two different grade point averages that appear on the transcript - cumulative and term averages. The university cumulative average reflects all course work completed at RIT at the graduate level. The term average reflects a single term of academic activity. In addition, each graduate student has a program average used for degree certification that is manually calculated by the academic unit and reflects course work completed at RIT applicable to graduation in a student's current academic program. The current academic program refers to the university and college degree course requirements specified by the degree granting college and noted in the graduate catalog. In addition to the university requirements outlined below, individual colleges and/or programs may define more rigorous requirements for maintaining good academic standing. This information must be approved by the dean, clearly defined within published college policy, communicated in the university bulletin, and communicated to the Provost's Office. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic unit is required.

1. Any degree-seeking graduate student whose cumulative and/or program grade point average (see D5.0 - Grades, section VII) falls below a 3.00 after 9 credit hours (attempted or earned) subsequently will be placed on probation and counseled by the graduate program director (or his/her designee) concerning continuation in the graduate program.
2. Students on probation must raise their program cumulative and program grade point average to 3.00 within 9 credit hours (attempted or earned) or they will be suspended from the graduate program.
3. A graduate student suspended for academic reasons, must apply for readmission.
4. A suspended student cannot enroll in any credit or non-credit course at the university while on suspension.
5. A suspended student may appeal a suspension decision. Individual colleges and/or programs may set limitations on the number of appeals a student can submit.
6. A suspension may be waived upon written appeal to the student's home program. Final suspension waiver approval requires dean (or designee) approval. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic unit in which the enrollment is requested is required.
7. A suspended student may be required to satisfy specific academic conditions imposed in order to be considered for readmission to his/her program.
8. A suspended student may be admitted to another program if it is approved by the dean (or designee) of the college in which enrollment is requested. For programs housed outside the college structure, the approval of the director of the academic program in which the enrollment is requested is required.

ACADEMIC SUSPENSION POLICIES FROM RIT BENCHMARK SCHOOLS

- Students on academic suspension may not*:
 - Register for courses
 - Attend classes
 - Live in student or fraternity/sorority housing
 - Use campus facilities including athletic facilities, library, and computer clusters
 - Participate in student activities
 - Be members of student organizations
 - Have student jobs

*Note: summarized from multiple institutions

- Peer institutions researched:
 - Carnegie Mellon, Case Western, Clarkson, Cornell, Drexel, Illinois Institute of Technology, Lehigh, MIT, NYU, and Northeastern.

DISCUSSION WITH RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

1. Rob Garrick, Ph.D., P.E., Professor, Acting Department Chair
Manufacturing and Mechanical Engineering Technology
2. Bobby Colón, Esq., General Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs
3. Richard DeMartino, Simone Center and Tiger Tank (No response)
4. Scott McVean, Senior Associate Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
5. Lisa Boice, MBA, JD, Assistant Dean, Student Services, Saunders College of Business
6. David K. Bagley, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, Co-Administrative Advisor, Student Government
7. Farid Barquet Ramos, Student Government (No response)

D18.0 (VIII) (A) (4): **VIII. Responses to Violations of the Student Code of Conduct**

4. *Suspension.* Suspension is the immediate removal of the Student's affiliation with the university for a specific period of time, which includes exclusion from classes, university housing, and all other university activities. Suspended Students are not allowed to be on campus for any reason during the period of suspension and may be arrested for trespassing if found on university property. Students returning from suspension have an initial restriction from living in campus housing and are placed in indefinite probation for the remainder of their time at RIT. Suspended Student organizations may lose certain privileges, such as use of campus facilities, participation in university activities, use of allocated funds, recruitment, or new member education activities. If a Student organization with a national affiliation (e.g., a Greek-letter organization) is found responsible for misconduct and is placed on a status of Suspension, RIT will inform the national office of the decision. Specific

conditions will be required to be completed prior to the Student or Student organization's return. Once the term and the conditions of a suspension are completed, it is the responsibility of the Student to contact their academic college to discuss returning to that college.

SUB-COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Revise D5.1 to be consistent with other university policies regarding student suspension. For example, D18.0 outlines the student conduct process and includes suspension as a permissible outcome for violations of the Student Code of Conduct. See D18.0(VIII)(A)(4). Suspension in this context includes exclusion from classes, university housing, and all other university activities. Suspension is also an appropriate remedy for violations of D18.1 (Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy) and D19.0 (Student Gender-Based and Sexual Misconduct Policy-Title IX).

AAC RECOMMENDATION - REVISE D5.1 POLICY TO STATE:

“Academic **Suspension** refers to the academic action taken that immediately removes the Student’s affiliation with the university for a period of one calendar year. A student on academic suspension will be excluded from classes, university housing, and all other university activities during the period of suspension. A suspended student may attend university events open to the general public. The student's participation at university events will be limited to the participation of the general audience.”