

**NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY  
DURHAM, NORTH CAROLINA  
MINUTES OF A SPECIAL CALL MEETING  
OF THE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
December 16, 2010**

The NCCU Board of Trustees, a special called meeting, met via telephone conference call and a public forum was provided in the Chancellor's Conference Room, Hoey Administration Building. Chairman Adams called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. He recognized Ms. Susan Hester to call the roll.

**ROLL CALL:** Present: Mr. Glenn Adams, Mr. Charles Baron, Mr. Robert Dolan, Mr. Harold Epps, Mr. Eric Michaux, Dr. Dwight Perry, Mr. Paul Pope, Mrs. Avon L. Ruffin, Mrs. Kay Thomas, Mr. Carlton Thornton, Mrs. Nancy Wysenski, Mr. George Hamilton. Absent: Mr. Dwayne Johnson.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:** It was moved by Trustee Thomas and properly seconded that the agenda be adopted. The motion carried.

**CHAIR'S REMARKS:** Chairman Adams informed the Board, as Chair, it is his responsibility to remind all members of the Board of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest as required by this Act. Each member has received the agenda and related information for this Board of Trustees meeting. If any board member knows of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the board of trustees at this meeting, the conflict or appearance of conflict should be identified at this time.

It was moved by Trustee Perry and properly seconded by Trustee Michaux to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter pursuant to NCGS 143.318.11(a)(6)

**CLOSED SESSION**

The Committee heard a presentation from Dr. Ingrid Wicker McCree, Athletic Director, who presented a candidate for the position of Head Football Coach. Dr. McCree shared with the committee the candidate's credentials and indicated a national search was conducted, 60 applied, there were 7 finalists and 5 were interviewed by the search committee. Dr. McCree forwarded the recommendation to Chancellor Nelms for his review and consideration.

Trustee Perry, who served on the search committee, expressed his excitement regarding the choice. This candidate will raise the bar athletically, has proven himself and has distinguished himself nationally.

Trustee Thomas moved and it was properly seconded by Trustee Baron to reconvene in open session. The motion carried.

## OPEN SESSION

It was moved by Trustee Baron and properly seconded by Trustee Thomas that the NCCU Board of Trustees approve the recommendation of the candidate for Head Football Coach and directs the staff to forward all relevant information to the UNC Board of Governors/President for final action. The motion carried.

The next item on the agenda was to consider an Amendment to the current Satisfactory Academic Progression Policy. Trustee Thornton moved that this item be tabled for consideration until a later date due to materials not being provided in a timely manner for the Trustees to review and consider the matter being presented.

Chairman Adams recognized Provost Kwesi Aggrey to make a presentation on the amendment to the Satisfactory Academic Progression Policy. This amendment supports the continuing efforts to improve academic rigor and ensure smooth progression toward graduation. Further it is aimed at achieving this requirement and ensuring that students, once they satisfy all requirements within their majors, will graduate. To allow reasonable time for students who have cumulative GPAs of less than 2.000 to improve their standing, the amendment will be introduced in two phases:

- All students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 1.900 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2011
- All students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2012

There being no further discussion or comments on the Amendment to the Satisfactory Academic Progression Policy, Chairman Adams reminded the Trustees of the pending motion to table consideration of this matter until a later date offered by Trustee Thornton. It was moved and properly seconded to table consideration of this Amendment until a future date. The motion failed.

Therefore, it was moved by Trustee Baron and properly seconded by Trustee Hamilton to approve the Amendment to the Satisfactory Academic Progression Policy. The motion carried.

Prior to the meeting adjourning, Trustee Thornton requested of the Administration that recommendations for Honorary Degrees be provided to the Trustees at its February 2011 meeting.

There being no further business, it was moved by Trustee Thomas and properly seconded to adjourn. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Dottie Irving Fuller  
Recorder

## **NCCU Proposed Policy on Academic Progression**

**Submitted by:**

**Kwesi Aggrey, Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs**

**Date: December 15, 2010**

### **RATIONALE:**

North Carolina Central University is unequivocally committed to the recruitment, retention, and graduation of all students. To achieve that end, the institution herein proposes a policy on Academic Progression to ensure attainment of the goal of graduation by all students. Given the fact that a cumulative GPA of 2.000 is required for graduation, it is essential for all students to maintain at least a 2.000 cumulative GPA at all times. The new policy purports to advance the objective of students graduating upon successful completion of all requirements within their chosen major field of study.

### **PROPOSED NCCU POLICY:**

Pursuant to the establishment and sustainability of a heightened intellectual climate at North Carolina Central University, all students must maintain a grade point average of at least a 2.000 throughout their matriculation. Further, effective fall 2011, any student with a cumulative GPA of less than 1.900 will be dismissed from the institution. Additionally, effective fall 2012, all NCCU students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or better in order to continue enrollment.

### **INITIAL PROCESS IMPLEMENTATION:**

Deans, department chairs, or academic advisors will contact students who have a cumulative GPA less than 2.000. All students with less than a 2.000 GPA are required to meet with their academic advisors to develop academic improvement plans prior to the start of the spring semester (January 2011).

ACADEMIC YEAR	PROGRESSION STATUS	AFFECTED STUDENTS
Spring 2011	Eligible students are identified and required to meet with their respective department chairpersons and advisors to develop binding academic progression plan	Undergraduate students with GPA of less than 1.900
Fall 2011	Students with a minimum of a 1.9 will be permitted to enroll and must meet with respective departments to gauge projected and actual progress toward required GPA goal.	Undergraduate students lacking required GPA
Spring 2012	Students meet with departmental chairpersons and advisors to assess progress toward goal.	Undergraduate students with GPA of less than 2.0
Fall 2012	All students must have achieved a GPA of at least a 2.000 or they will not be permitted to continue enrollment in the institution	Undergraduate students

**\*\*Please note that the current University Undergraduate Catalogue is effective 2008-2011. Consequently, the proposed policy on Academic Progression will be included in the 2011-2013 version, scheduled to be released in April-May, 2011.**



James E. Shepard, Founder

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

To: All NCCU Students

From: Kwesi E. Aggrey  
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Subject: Academic Progression Policy

Date: December, 2010

North Carolina Central University is instituting a new academic policy that supports our continuing efforts to improve academic rigor and ensure smooth progression toward graduation. Considering that a cumulative GPA of 2.000 is required for graduation, it is in students' best interests to maintain a GPA of 2.000 or greater at all times. The new policy is aimed at achieving this requirement and ensuring that students, once they satisfy all requirements within their majors, will graduate.

To allow reasonable time for students who have cumulative GPAs of less than 2.000 to improve their standing, the policy will be introduced in two phases.

- a) All students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 1.900 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2011.
- b) All students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2012.

This month, Deans, Department Chairs or Academic Advisors will contact students who have cumulative GPAs less than 2.000. All such students must meet with their Academic Advisors to develop academic improvement plans prior to the start of the spring semester in January 2011.

We are committed to working with you to achieve a high-quality education and timely graduation. We encourage you to take advantage of the improved services available to you on campus and online, and we continue to invite you to partner with us as we strive to find better ways to deliver a complete education to all.

Thank you, and best wishes as you prepare to take your final examinations and successfully complete your semester.



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## **CURRENT POLICY**

### **SATISFACTORY ACADEMIC PROGRESS POLICY**

#### **Satisfactory (Undergrad) Academic Progress**

##### **UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE STUDENTS**

Federal regulations require that schools monitor the academic progress of each applicant for financial assistance and that the school certify that the applicant is making satisfactory academic progress towards earning his/her degree or certificate. Financial aid recipients must maintain satisfactory progress in the three areas listed below:

1. Cumulative Grade Point Average
2. Hours Earned
3. Maximum Time Limit

It is the student's responsibility to stay informed of the university's SAP standards and to monitor their progress. For SAP purposes, student academic records are reviewed by the Scholarships and Student Aid Office each academic year at the end of the spring semester. Students who are not meeting one or more of the Satisfactory Academic Progress Standards are not eligible for financial aid for the next academic year. Eligibility may be regained by resolving all deficiencies (except the Maximum Length of Study).

Federal regulations require the university to establish Standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress, involving both qualitative (cumulative grade point average) and quantitative (hours earned compared to hours attempted), and a maximum length of study. This requirement applies to all applicants for any federal assistance, including Federal Pell Grants, Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (FSEOG), Federal Work-Study, Federal Perkins Loan, the William D. Ford Direct Loan Program, which includes the Federal Stafford and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans for students, and Federal PLUS Loans for parents of undergraduate students. The same standards may apply to all assistance from the State of North Carolina and all other aid that is determined by the Scholarships and Student Aid Office. To be eligible for financial aid at NCCU, whether or not aid was received in the past, students must be in compliance with all three of the following areas: cumulative GPA, hours earned, and maximum length of study.



### **Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA)**

Students must maintain the minimum cumulative grade point average indicated in Column 2 (Suspension) for satisfactory progress toward graduation requirements. These standards are consistent with academic standards required for graduation.

<b>Plus Accepted Hours</b>	<b>Cumulative Grade Point Average</b>
<b>Transferred from Other Institutions</b>	<b>(GPA)</b>
<b>0 -- 29</b>	<b>1.3</b>
<b>30 -- 59</b>	<b>1.5</b>
<b>60 -- 95</b>	<b>1.7</b>
<b>96 or Above</b>	<b>2.0</b>

- a) Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 1.900 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2011.
- b) Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.000 or better to be eligible to enroll in Fall 2012.

### **Hours Earned (Compared to Hours Attempted)**

We recommend that undergraduate students attempt to earn at least 31 hours per academic year in order to graduate in four years for programs that require 124 credit hours. To remain eligible for financial aid, students must earn 67% of total attempted hours for the previous enrollment periods as indicated in the chart below:

Note: To remain eligible for financial aid, undergraduate students must earn 67% of total attempted hours for all previous periods of enrollment.

- Full-time enrollment: 12 or more course credit hours
- Half-time enrollment: 6 course credit hours

For financial aid purposes, the following definitions and conditions apply:

To earn hours at NCCU, one must receive a grade of A, B, C, or D (including + or -). All other grades, including F, I, W, WC, WF, AU, NU or NP, do not earn hours. Classes from which a student withdraws after the drop/add period count as attempted but not earned hours. Therefore, withdrawing from classes after the drop/add period will negatively affect students' ability to satisfy the hours earned standard.



Audited courses count as attempted but not earned hours. Therefore, auditing classes will negatively affect students' ability to satisfy the hours earned standard. When a student repeats a course, the total attempted hours will increase with each repeat, but the student may only earn hours for a successfully completed course once. Therefore, repeating courses may negatively affect students' ability to satisfy the hours earned standard. Accepted transfer credit will count as both attempted and earned hours.

#### Maximum Length of Study

To remain eligible for financial aid, undergraduate students must complete their degree requirements within 150 percent of the published length of their academic program. At NCCU, this means that students in programs requiring 124 hours for graduation will be eligible for financial aid during the first 186 attempted hours as an undergraduate. All attempted hours are counted, including transfer hours, whether or not financial aid was received, or the course work was successfully completed. The maximum length of study will be reviewed every semester. No financial aid will be disbursed for the student during subsequent semesters unless the student has an approved Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) appeal.

#### Annual Satisfactory Academic Progress Reviews

At the end of the Spring semester, a year-end review is completed, and students who are out of compliance with one or more of the satisfactory academic progress standards become ineligible for further financial aid until all deficiencies are remedied. The Scholarships and Student Aid Office sends written notification of ineligibility to students at their permanent addresses as listed in official university records in the Registrar's Office. Satisfactory Academic Progress and eligibility for financial aid are determined each academic year after the summer school grades are available.

#### Regaining Eligibility for Financial Aid

Students who are meeting the standards are eligible for financial assistance for the next enrollment period. To regain eligibility for financial aid, a student may consult with a financial aid counselor to determine the appropriate alternatives. The following may be considered for regaining eligibility for financial aid:

- Taking courses during the summer session(s)
- Repeating failed courses
- Removing incomplete grades
- Reviewing repeat courses to ensure that highest grade has been computed

Cumulative GPAs can only be improved by course work at NCCU. Hours earned deficiencies may be made up by attendance at NCCU or another institution. However, if enrolling elsewhere, the student must complete the appropriate transfer study forms and have the course work pre-approved by the Dean of the College or School for the program of study at NCCU prior to enrolling at the other institution. Following completion of course work elsewhere, the student must request that an academic transcript be sent to the NCCU Registrar's Office. Once deficiencies have been remedied, the student must notify the Scholarships and Student Aid Office and request reinstatement of eligibility. This process begins when all grades and credit hours are officially recorded in the Registrar's Office at NCCU. Once the maximum length of study standard has been exceeded, financial aid eligibility ends, even if the student is in compliance with the other two standards.

### Summer School

Satisfactory Academic Progress for Summer School will be based on the student's eligibility for the previous academic year. A student who meets the requirements for fall and spring will also qualify for financial aid for the summer sessions. However, if you are deemed ineligible during the spring semester, you will not qualify for financial aid for the upcoming fall semester and any future terms until you are meeting the satisfactory academic progress policy.

### Appeals

Federal regulations allow for certain cases in which the school may waive the standards. Specifically, if a student's failure to be in compliance with one or more areas of satisfactory academic progress is due to events beyond the student's control, such as a student's extended illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, or other significant trauma, and if such mitigating circumstances can be appropriately documented for the specific term(s) in which the deficiency occurred, the student may appeal to the Scholarships and Student Aid Office. Eligibility may be regained by appeal. Contact the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid Office to obtain an Appeal for Reinstatement of Eligibility form, or click [here](#).

This SAP policy was approved April, 2007 and SAP will be measured by this policy at the end of Spring 2007 and replaces all previous SAP policies.

For further information regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress, the student should contact the Scholarships and Student Aid Office at North Carolina Central University