

Proposition: 11-09/10
Date Submitted: January 15, 2010
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Proposed Committee Assignment: Scholastic Affairs
Assigned Committee: **Scholastic Affairs 4/13/10**

Title: Proposal to Amend Undergraduate Course Catalog for Student Participation in Extracurricular Activities While Under Academic Warning and Academic Probation

Proposal:

Add the following to the Undergraduate Catalog for Academic Warning:

“A student on Academic Warning remains eligible for all extracurricular activities as governed by the rules of the specific activity.”

Add the following to the Undergraduate Catalog for Academic Probation I:

“A student on Academic Probation I remains eligible for all extracurricular activities as governed by the rules of the specific activity.”

Add the following to the Undergraduate Catalog for Academic Probation II:

“A student on Academic Probation II remains eligible for all extracurricular activities as governed by the rules of the specific activity.”

Rationale:

Currently the policy regarding eligibility of student participation in extracurricular activities while under academic warning or probation is unclear. Discussions of academic warnings and probation in the Undergraduate Catalog do not discuss eligibility in extracurricular activities.

More importantly, extracurricular activities are an effective way to engage students and help improve their academic performance. Participation in extracurricular activities often keeps students from feeling “left out” and alienated from the university community.

This Proposition in no way changes or minimizes the eligibility requirements of NCAA. In particular, while a student on Probation II would be eligible under NMSU rules to participate in extracurricular activities, they would not be under NCAA rules since students on Probation II are restricted in the number of credits they can take. The NCAA requirements for eligibility are summarized below:

To maintain eligibility to practice and compete, all student-athletes must satisfy each of the following criteria each semester:

1. Maintain full-time enrollment of 12 credits for undergraduates. (NCAA By-law 14.1.8.2)
2. Earn 6 degree credits in the preceding REGULAR academic term.
3. Earn a minimum number of credits each year. Prior to the beginning of their third semester of full-time enrollment the student-athlete must have earned 24 credits in the preceding (freshman) academic year, at least 18 credits of which must be completed during the regular academic terms (fall and spring, this is commonly referred to as the 18/24 credit rule). All other undergraduates must earn 18 credits in the preceding academic year. (NCAA By-law 14.4.3.1)
4. Declare a major by the beginning of the third year of full-time enrollment. At this point, all credits used to satisfy continuing eligibility standards MUST be degree-countable. (NCAA By-law 14.4.3.1.6)
5. Maintain satisfactory progress toward a degree. Student-athletes must complete 40%, 60%, and 80% of degree requirements by the beginning of their third, fourth, and fifth years, respectively, of full-time enrollment. Satisfactory progress rules are first applied at the completion of two years of full-time enrollment. (NCAA By-law 14.4.3.2)
6. Maintain a satisfactory GPA. For student-athletes enrolling in August, 2003 or later, the cumulative GPA must be 1.80 or better for those entering their second year of full-time enrollment, 1.9 or better for those entering their third year of full-time enrollment, and 2.0 or better for those entering their four year or beyond of full-time enrollment. (NCAA By-law 14.4.3.3)

The NCAA specifically states (NCAA By-law 14.01.2.1) the definition of good academic standing is left to the authorities of the local institution as long as NCAA requirements are met.

The NMSU Undergraduate Catalog describes the criteria for Academic Warning, Academic Probation I and Academic Probation II. Appropriate sections of the Undergraduate Catalog are attached.