

MOTION: Withdrawal Policy
REFERRED BY: Faculty Senate Executive Council

MOTION

The Faculty Senate supports the motion and *Undergraduate Catalog* changes approved by the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee regarding the withdrawal policy, attached on the following page.

RATIONALE

As the voice of faculty, and consistent with University internal governance policies, the Faculty Senate is provided the opportunity to review and comment upon actions of the Academic Policies and Procedures Committee.

ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

Motion re: Withdrawal Policy

The amount of time students have to withdraw from individual classes at RU shall be shortened from 12 to eight weeks (or the equivalent proportion of non-traditional courses).

Rationale:

As the University makes an effort to increase academic rigor, it seems incongruous to give students 12 weeks of a 14 week semester to make decisions about individual class withdrawals. Students should have enough information to make decisions about withdrawal by the midpoint of the semester. Using the eighth week as the deadline will permit new students and students on probation to receive midterm grades.

The deadline for withdrawals from the University (all courses) should remain at 12 weeks. While poor academic performance is sometimes the reason for complete University withdrawals, it is at least as common that students withdraw because there are unusual medical, financial, familial, or other circumstances making it impossible for them to remain in school. Students who withdraw from the University already pay a heavy price (the complete cost of tuition and room, plus a pro-rated portion their meal plan), so doing so is not a decision that must take lightly.

Catalog Revisions

(page 68):

(Section on Withdrawal from One or More, but Not All Courses)

A student who drops a class prior to the conclusion of schedule adjustment will receive no grade. A student who withdraws from class after schedule adjustment but before the end of the ~~twelfth~~ **eighth** week of the semester (or ~~80~~ **60** percent of the total class meetings of a summer session or any other non-traditional course, **whichever comes first**) will receive a grade of "W." ~~A student who withdraws from class after the posted last day to withdraw and receives a grade of "W" (i.e., after 80 percent of classes have been completed) will receive a grade of "F."~~
Students may not withdraw from individual classes following the end of the eighth week of the semester.