Motion re 10-Year Transfer Credit Policy

Referred by the University Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

Motion

The Faculty Senate recommends that the sentence "Transfer courses may not be used toward a Radford University degree if they are more than 10 years old at the time of a student’s matriculation" be removed from the catalog. This would allow the department or school to make an appropriate decision regarding the need to repeat a course in the student's best interest and remove potential confusion resulting from conflicting statements.

Rationale

The current undergraduate catalog contains conflicting statements with regard to major course work taken over ten years previous to matriculation. The following is stated at the Registrar's website under Graduation Policy.

Any course work in the major more than 10 years old at the time of matriculation may be reviewed by the chair of the department in which the student is housed, and the chair may require the student to take more current courses in lieu of those previously taken.

Students so affected may request an opportunity to demonstrate currency in the area(s) covered by those courses previously taken. Transfer courses may not be used toward a Radford University degree if they are more than 10 years old at the time of a student’s matriculation.

The problem is evident in the School of Nursing with regard to the RN-to-BSN program. Applicants who have been working successfully as Registered Nurses but wish to earn a baccalaureate degree in nursing would be required to repeat courses taken ten years or more ago. Some of these courses would be for topics that they have been performing successfully on a daily basis. Repeating such a course may be unnecessary and a deterrent for potential applicants to the RN-to-BSN program.