

Longwood University Faculty Senate
PROPOSAL/POLICY COVER SHEET

This cover sheet is intended to provide information to members of the Faculty Senate about a new proposal/policy or about revisions to an existing proposal/policy. This cover sheet is being piloted during spring and fall 2011.

If you are proposing a new policy, then attach the text of the policy to this form. If you are proposing a change to an existing policy, then attach the text of the current policy with any deleted language marked by a strikethrough and with new language marked by an underline. If you are deleting a policy, then attach the text of the policy to be deleted.

COMMITTEE(S) THAT AUTHORED OR SPONSORED THE POLICY: Senate
 Executive Committee

TOPIC: Undergraduate Graduation Policy

BACKGROUND (Provide a brief statement describing the origins of this proposal, the nature of the problem it addresses, and the work completed to devise the proposal):

At its January 22 meeting, Faculty Senate passed a change to the Undergraduate Graduation Policy. The revised policy states:

“Students who are in good academic standing with the university, have seven (7) or fewer academic credits or one course remaining for the completion of their degree, and have enrolled in the courses required for graduation for the subsequent summer and/or fall academic semesters shall be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony. Those students who have seven (7) credit hours or fewer or one course remaining to complete their degree must also receive approval from their department chair and the registrar in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Diplomas will be mailed to students normally within eight weeks of commencement or the completion of their degree requirements.”

SUMMARY OF NEW POLICY OR PROPOSED CHANGES OR DELETIONS TO AN EXISTING POLICY (Provide a brief list or statement describing the content of the policy or the proposed changes or deletions):

It is proposed to remove the approval of the department chair from the policy in the sentence below (see strikethrough):

“Those students who have seven (7) credit hours or fewer or one course remaining to complete their degree must also receive approval from ~~their department chair and~~ the registrar in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.”

RATIONALE FOR THE POLICY OR PROPOSED CHANGES (Provide a brief statement as to why the new policy, the changes, or the deletion is needed):

After passage of the policy by Senate, the registrar, Provost, and department chairs were consulted about the role of the department chairs in the policy. The Academic Chairs Council voted in support of removing department chairs' approval from the policy. The registrar and Provost agreed that this is a clear-cut issue as to whether students qualify to walk at graduation; department chairs are not needed to verify students' academic record or registration for summer or fall courses. Any exceptions to this policy will be considered first by the registrar, who will refer the case to the appropriate Dean's office, and then if necessary, to the Provost/VPAA's office.

Date submitted to Senate Executive Committee for Consideration: _____

Action(s) Taken:

Date first read at Faculty Senate: _____

Action(s) Taken:

Date final action taken by Faculty Senate: _____

Final action(s) Taken: