

CAS Summary Report: Fall 2002 – Spring 2003

The Committee on Academic Status reviews petitions requesting a wide variety of academic adjustments by students. They also place students on probation, require students to withdraw from the College for failure to meet probation/continuance standards, and reinstate students to good standing allowing them to return to W&M or transfer to another college/university. CAS must hear all retroactive petitions of any nature. CAS has granted the right to make certain specific decisions to the Dean of Students without those petitions being reviewed by committee members as given in the CAS Manual.

CAS placed 224 students on probation for the 2002-2003 academic year. Of this total 40 students were evaluated based on “old standards” (prior to fall 1999), the remaining 184 were placed on probation based on evaluation using “new standards” (fall 1999 forward). 50 students were first year, 53 second year, 70 third year, and 51 were fourth and fifth year students. 68% of the total 224 probation students either met their probation/continuance standards or were continued on probation into the following semester because of their academic improvement. A total of 24 students were dropped for their first time at the end of fall 2002 and 35 were dropped for the first time at the end of spring. This number remains fairly constant across years. The year saw 14 students dropped for the second and final time from WM which is an increase of one student from the previous year.

CAS placed 218 students on academic warning (semester grades below a 2.0 but above the semester probation standard) during F2003-S2003.

CAS also reviewed and made decisions on a total of 599 petitions not related to probation/continuance review (underloads, overloads, late ADD/DROP, change of credit, etc). The members approved 434 requests and denied 165 requests.

The Medical Review Committee (MRC) is a subcommittee of the Committee on Academic Status and is composed of the Dean of Students, Associate Dean of Students, Director of the Counseling Center, and Director of Student Health Center. When the necessary medical and personal documentation is submitted CAS has granted authority to the MRC to make final decisions on student medical petitions. All medical petitions after the last day of classes each semester (retroactive) are reviewed by MRC and sent to CAS for final decision. Medical clearance to return is also reviewed and determined by MRC.

A full medical withdrawal from the College is the most significant academic adjustment given a student. The student’s personal request and submitted medical documents or other materials are carefully discussed before decisions are granted. A student receiving a full medical withdrawal is expected in most instances to remain absent from the campus for a minimum of one full academic semester. During this time they are expected to obtain treatment for their respective medical condition. Returning to the College requires medical clearance; it is not automatic. The student seeking clearance must submit current medical and personal documentation clearly indicating they are healthy and capable of

returning to a full academic load. If necessary, certain conditions may accompany the clearance.

In Fall 2002-Spring 2003 the Medical Review Committee managed 233 requests for academic adjustments which is a 32% increase from the previous year. These petitions included everything from medical withdrawal from a single course to a full medical withdrawal for the specific semester. In the fall 2002 semester 21 students were granted full medical withdrawals from the College and in the spring 13 students medically withdrew. In the same period, fall 2002-spring 2003, MRC granted 37 students clearance to return to their studies at the College. Fourteen retroactive petitions in the fall and sixteen retroactive petitions in the spring were reviewed by MRC and forwarded to the full CAS for decisions.