

Admissions, Standards, and Honors Committee meeting, May 14, 2025
219 Dairy Processing building

1. Meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM by Cathy Williams.
2. Attendance
Voting members present: Cathy Williams, Maribel Dietz, Olivia Lucas, Christopher Gregg, Michelle Osborn, Julie Rollins
Proxies: Ray Pingree for Len Aparcar, Kanchan Maiti proxy for Ipsita Gupta and Sanaz Aghazadeh.
Not present: Lauren Cardenas. John Church
Non-voting members present: Jaqueline Bach, Erin Schell, Walt Holliday, Michael Blandino, Clay Benton,
Non-voting members not present: Emmett Brown, Meridia Sanders,
Guests: Kevin Smiley, Sociology; Becca Thompson, Office of Retention and Student Success
3. No public comments were made.
4. Introduction of guests, Kevin Smiley, Sociology; Becca Thompson, Office of Retention & Student Success
5. Minutes of the April 2025 meeting were approved.
6. Announcement that the “I” date changes for online graduate courses will be going to the full senate for discussion.
7. Second Reading: Proposal to change the policy on the Last Day to Drop with a W or Resign. Currently the date is in the eleventh week of classes and this proposal would change it to the 14th week of classes. This proposal was revised from the previous one to reflect a change from the 15th week to the 14th week and a clearer rationale and justification. Becca Thompson, one of the authors of the proposal, explained how they reviewed the drop dates of our peer institutions and many have later dates than LSU. Exit surveys of students who leave LSU refer to financial reasons and low GPA – possible factors that could be improved if students are allowed to drop classes during the final week of the semester. Another important factor was that the current timing of the drop date (eleventh week) creates an administrative burden since it is during the time students are registering for the following semester. There is not enough advising capacity to have students who wish to drop meet with advisors who can explain the ramifications of dropping the class. Freshmen are all required to see an advisor to drop a class. There was much discussion about the list of peer institutions and the selective way data was presented in the proposal. Thompson responded that they did not mean to imply that there was one single factor (drop date) but many factors that can get us to the goal of 90% retention of first year students. Also discussion about students not knowing their grade standing in a class sometimes due to instructor not submitting midterm grades or not using Moodle gradebook.
Gregg moved to amend that in fall semester, due to Thanksgiving, the date moves to Monday of following week, majority voted in favor. Maiti moved to amend the proposal (seconded by Pingree) to take out the interpretation and just present the data, majority voted in favor. Osborn moved to put the full data set into the proposal, not just a selection of data set into the proposal (seconded by Lucas), majority voted in favor. Maiti moved to approve the amended proposal and Osborn seconded. Motion approving the proposal passed by the majority.

8. Second Reading of Proposal from the Sociology department to change the required GPA for admission into the major to 2.25 cumulative and LSU GPA. This proposal was also slightly revised from the previous reading. The justifications deal with the increasing size of the program and the need to “right size” it. There are problems of majors being able to schedule their required major courses. There was some discussion about revising the justification to relate to student success and to the accreditation of their program. Others mentioned how Workday student allows for reserving seats in a course just for majors. Dietz moved to approve the proposal and Maiti seconded. Motion approving the proposal passed unanimously.
9. Meeting adjourned at 2:10 pm.