Non-Consent Agenda Item:
Approval to amend the Academic Probation Policy with a statement on the Academic Recovery Program

Effective Term: Spring 2017 for all undergraduates

Proposal:
http://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/undergraduate-academic-standing-progress-probation-and-disqualification#prob  (amendment in red)

Undergraduate students not meeting academic progress will be placed on academic probation. Academic probation status occurs following any term (i.e., fall, winter, spring, summer) when the student's cumulative grade-point-average (GPA) drops below a 2.000. The first time that students are placed on academic probation, they should meet with their academic advisor to discuss the consequences, such as enrollment in a mandatory Academic Recovery Program during the following fall or spring semester. Students on academic probation are subject to restrictions or requirements, such as certain courses, that are determined by the academic dean of the college in which the student is enrolled. Students should contact the college dean’s office for college-specific probation policies. Students are removed from academic probation upon earning the minimum 2.000 cumulative GPA as required by the University.

Justification:
• Many students struggle academically with the transition from high school to college, and some are placed on academic probation at the end of their first semester. On average, ~20% of freshmen, ~10% of sophomores, and ~7% of juniors enter academic probation status every term. Freshmen on academic probation after their first term have a first-year retention rate below 50%.
• The Academic Recovery Program, which was initiated as a pilot in FY2015, supports first-time probation students in regaining good academic standing by meeting with peer mentors and learning specialists, developing goals, and implementing action plans that address academic skills, time-management, motivation, etc.
• Serving these at-risk students is labor and time-intensive. The mandatory academic recovery fee ($100) provides modest support to colleges that provide additional academic recovery services, such as workshops and success courses, in collaboration with centralized services to increase student retention.
• The academic standing of Program participants in Spring 2015 was compared to that of eligible non-participants. The outcomes for that semester are as follows: 1,308 students were invited to participate, 780 (60%) accepted, 281 (36%) of those attained good standing, 507 (65%) persisted from spring to Fall 2016, and 125 (16%) were disqualified; 528 (40%) declined to participate, 111 (21%) of those attained good standing, but only 253 (48%) persisted to Fall 2016, and 169 (32%) were disqualified.

Approvals:
Undergraduate Council: 10/11/16
Graduate Council: N/A
Academic Deans: 10/25/16
Administrative Review: 10/31/16
FS: