

TEXAS SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF REGENTS RETREAT
MARCH 9-10, 2012

Issues Related to the New Student
Academic Handbook

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COPHS Mission

CLASS OF 2015



The mission of the college is to produce quality health care professionals, especially African-Americans and other ethnic minorities, who are competent in health care delivery, including the provision of patient-centered care and other health care services and programs.

Background

- Revision of 2002 Student Academic Handbook
 - Addressed changes in
 - accreditation standards
 - curriculum
 - experiential programs
 - workplace requirements for health professions training
 - Included accreditation concerns to improve progression
 - Removed one year suspension period
 - Clearly delineated progression policies

Background- Timeline

- Summer 2008: Faculty and TSU administration approved revised Handbook
- Fall 2008: College notified of retroactive change in university's requirement that Handbooks of all colleges & schools must be approved by the Board of Regents
- Fall 2008-Fall 2009: Faculty and “new” TSU Administration Handbook revision process and approval September, 2009.
 - Students advised/evaluated according to the Handbook most beneficial to a particular academic situation

Board-Approved Handbook

- **October 23, 2009-** Board of Regents approved the revised Student Handbook for implementation in Spring Semester 2010
- **Dec 2009** - College notified all students that academic performance would be evaluated by Board-approved Handbook
- **Spring 2010-**Handbook workshops held for each professional year class to explain various provisions, including academic progression and to answer questions

Issues

- In a June 2010 letter addressed to the TSU Board of Regents, students expressed concern regarding the implementation of two different handbooks during one academic year
- Implementation of a new curriculum in fall 2009 compounded academic progression issues
- Students evaluated using the Board-approved handbook resulted in dismissals that totaled 2.7% of students enrolled in the professional program

Resolution of Issues

- August 7, 2010- Dismissed students requested to address the Board of Regents
- Prior to Board Meeting Dean Hayes:
 - (1) Met with student representatives, who acknowledged issues had been addressed, but students remained dissatisfied with academic dismissals
 - (2) Met with college administrative team and prepared a Board Update which included a proposed compromise resolution. The proposal considered misunderstandings related to implementation of the Handbook and would lead to reinstatement of dismissed students with conditions.

Continued Resolution of Issues

- Aug 19, 2010: Dean Hayes presented compromise for reinstatement of dismissed students to Board of Regents
- Aug 20, 2010: Students addressed the Board
- Fall 2010: Students reinstated
 - Conditions for reinstatement included acknowledgement that students were under the 2009 Board approved Student Handbook

Follow-UP Actions

- Fall 2010: Rolled out Board-approved Handbook again to students; students signed acknowledgement
- 2010-current: Implementation of steps to make new curriculum more successful
- 2011-2012: Continued “Chat with the Dean Sessions “ for each professional class and Student Leaders’ Meetings for open communication with students regarding their issues – no student handbook issues

COPHS

The college is poised to continue its legacy - Over 62 years of educating and training quality health care professionals.



▣ Questions??