**Committee Name:** Admissions and Academic Policies Committee (AAPC)

**Chair:**  Jeanne M. Lorentzen, Ph.D.

**Subject:**  AAPC Annual Report to the Academic Senate 2016-2017

**Members:** Michael Crum, Gerri Daniels, Mary Etchison, Jim Gadzinski, Chris Greer, Christy Hartline, Heather Isaacson, Jennifer Myers-Jezylo, Caroline Krzakowski, Catherine Oliver (Secretary) Kim Rotundo, . Non-voting member: Katy Morrison (Coordinator of Academic Support Services)

AAPC met three times during Fall 2016 (9/2, 9/16, 10/28) and thus far three times during Winter 2017 (1/27, 3/17 and 3/31). AAPC is scheduled to meet on April 21, for the final meeting of the Winter 2017 semester. Subcommittees for processing emergency appeals between semesters met during summer 2016 and once during winter break 2016-2017.

**Academic Appeals**

A major part of the committee’s activity is to hear appeals for readmission by students who have been suspended or dismissed from NMU. The committee as a whole (or designated members during breaks) hears and considers each appeal. The Dean of Students is available for emergency appeals and submits a report to the committee on those actions. The totals for the appeal hearings for the past year were:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Number of Appeals** | **Appeals Granted** |
| Summer Break, May 16 - Aug 21  |  17  |  11 |
| Fall 2016, Aug, 22 - Dec 10  |  5 |  2 |
| Winter Break, January 11  |  15 |  12 |
| Winter 2016, Jan. 17 – May 6  |  7 |  2 |

**Academic and Admission Policy Considerations:** AAPC forwarded two recommended motions to the Senate during the 2016-2017 academic year.

**1. Proposal to modify admissions criteria to the Radiography program and eliminate language referencing the suspended Respiratory Therapy program.**

The School of Clinical Sciences proposed eliminating the requirement that students seeking admission to the Associate degree program in Radiography or Respiratory Therapy at Northern Michigan University must earn 16 credits of the required prerequisite coursework from NMU prior to admission to the professional sequence. And to eliminate the requirements for the Respiratory Program because it is a suspended program as of May 2015. The AAPC voted unanimously to recommend this proposal.

Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained December, 2016, to be effective Fall 2017.

2. **Add the Pearson Test of English (PTE) as another acceptable demonstration of English language proficiency for undergraduate admission.**

The proposal requests that NMU recognize the results of the Pearson Test of English (PTE) as another acceptable demonstration of English language proficiency for undergraduate admission to undergraduate degree programs. A score of 50 or higher on the PTE will be deemed acceptable for undergraduate admission.

Rationale for Accepting the Pearson Test of English:

* The PTE is accepted by more than 500 universities nation-wide (including major universities like Yale, Harvard, etc.).
* The PTE is accepted by 15 colleges and universities in Michigan (including U of M and MSU).
* By accepting the results of the Pearson Test of English for admission purposes, NMU will provide prospective international students with yet another effective and convenient way to earn admission to NMU. Depending on where international applicants live, it can be difficult, inconvenient, and/or expensive for them to take the English proficiency tests we currently require. Therefore, in order to eliminate as many barriers as possible for prospective students applying to NMU, it is in the best interest of NMU to accept as many different validated tests as possible.
* According to PTE Academic, the PTE is offered in 35 countries world-wide and in 36 U.S. states (including 4 test centers in Michigan).

Setting a score for a commercial language test is complex. TOEFL, IELTS, and PTE are all examinations created by private companies, and they all have slightly different comparisons between the tests.

The AAPC membership voted unanimously to recommend this proposal. Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained on 2-21-17, to be effective Fall 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne M. Lorentzen, Ph.D.

AAPC Chair 2015-2017