

# **Proposal to Revise the IU Kokomo Probation and Dismissal Policy**

## **Summary**

We want to add a sentence to our probation and dismissal policy. This sentence dismisses full time beginning students who earn a 0.00 GPA during their first semester. Doing this benefits these students by preventing them from continuing as students the next semester and doing further damage to their academic record.

## **Introduction**

Currently, when full time beginning students earn a 0.00 GPA in their first semester, they are put on probation and allowed to return the next semester. Very few of these students immediately continue on and achieve success. However, those who return the next semester and continue to fail can cause significant damage to their long term academic careers. Their ability to secure future financial aid is impaired, and if they later try to start again at an IU campus it is very difficult for them to adequately raise their cumulative GPA.

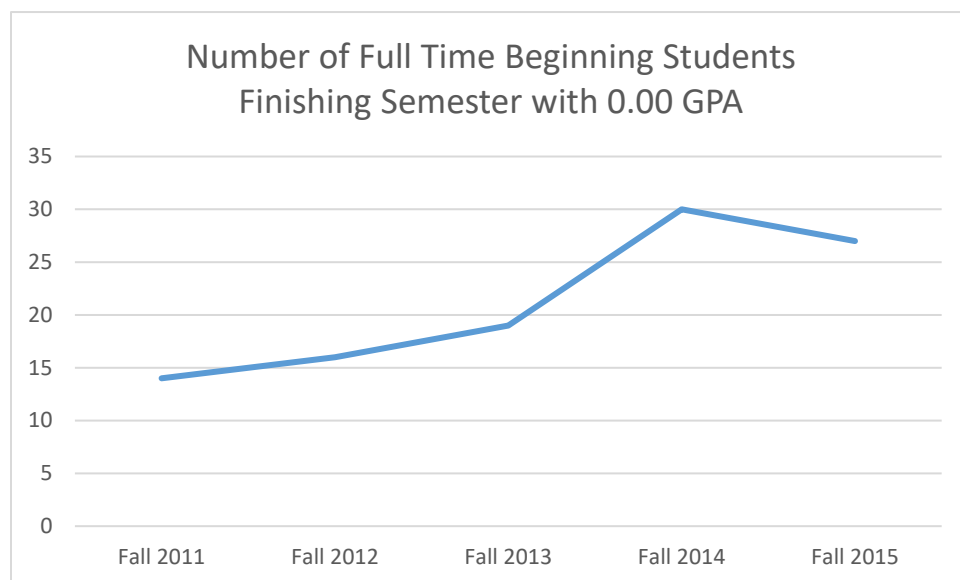
Our proposal is to dismiss these students after their first semester, thus preventing them from doing further immediate harm to their academic record. The time off will allow them to reassess their choices before continuing in college. After sitting out a semester, they can petition to return. In addition, if they wish, they can make a case to their dean to be allowed to immediately start taking courses again.

IUPUI has a similar policy, where they dismiss full time beginning students earning a GPA below 1.00 in their first semester. Our proposed policy is more generous than theirs, while still identifying students with no initial success in college.

We have discussed this policy change with Student Affairs, Advising, and the Registrar's office, and we believe this policy will help students.

## Rationale

Each year, we have full time beginning students who earn a 0.00 GPA their first semester. The number of such students has been rising, as shown below:



The track record of these students in subsequent semesters is not good. Only 6% of these students returned and earned a GPA greater than 0.00 in their second semester. Here is the data for students who started in Fall 2011-2014.

Result in Second Semester	Percentage of Students
Returned, earned GPA greater than 0.00	6%
Returned, earned 0.00 GPA again	14%
Withdrew during second semester	6%
Did not return	73%

## ***Below is the Policy, with Revisions Marked***

### **Policy**

A student is considered to be a candidate in good standing for an Indiana University degree when admitted into a degree program by the Office of Admissions, when the academic grade point average is not less than a 2.0 (C) for the last semester's work, and when the cumulative average is not below the same.

The following policy regarding academic probation and dismissal applies to all Indiana University Kokomo students. Dismissal from the university occurs when a student has ceased to make adequate progress toward a degree.

1. Any student whose cumulative GPA falls below 2.0 will be placed on academic probation.

2. A student may be continued on probation when his/her semester GPA is above a 2.0 but his/her cumulative GPA is below 2.0.

Note: The faculty of a school, division or degree program may enact more stringent or more specific policies governing probation, suspension or readmission in that school, division or degree program.

3. A student on academic probation shall be dismissed from Indiana University Kokomo if his/her semester GPA is below 2.0 and hi/her cumulative GPA is below that required in the table below.

Credit Hours Completed at Minimum Cumulative GPA

Close of Semester (Total Grade Pts./Total Cr. Hrs.)

12 to 24—1.50

25 to 36—1.75

37 to 45—1.90

46 or more—2.00

### **Add**

4. Beginning students who *attempted* 12 or more credit hours (including Ws) must obtain a semester GPA greater than 0.00 at the end of their first semester or they will be dismissed.

### **Add Word *Continuing* at Start of Sentence, Renumber**

**From 4 to 5.** Continuing students will not be evaluated for possible dismissal until they have completed 12 credit hours.

### **Update Numbering**

**From 5. to 6.** A student will be removed from academic probation when he/she has a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

**From 6. to 7.** Summer sessions will count as one semester when considering probation, dismissal, and re-admission criteria.

**Note:** Students may be dismissed from their school or program if they fail to meet academic or professional standards. Such students will be informed of their dismissal in writing by the school's dean or the dean's campus representative.

(Faculty Senate, 9/18/2006)

Revision date, if approved