

Minutes of the Undergraduate Council  
Monday, May 7, 2001  
#7

April Summitt, chair; Meredith Jones-Gray, vice chair;  
Delmer Davis, secretary; Samuel Chuah, Gerald Coy, Paula  
Dronen, Pat Mutch, Bill Richardson, Brad Sheppard,  
Charles Tidwell, Lynelle Weldon

**VOTING MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

Charlotte Coy, Emilio Garcia-Marenko, Edward Wines

**NON-VOTING  
MEMBERS PRESENT**

Derek Bradfield, Stephen Payne, Don May

**GUESTS**

Although the committee reviewed the minutes from April 2, 2001, at the beginning of the meeting, the members voted to accept the minutes at the end of the meeting after a full quorum had arrived.

**APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES**

The meeting centered on discussion of proposed changes in the admission criteria and processes. Derek Bradfield, Don May, and Stephen Payne updated the committee on recommendations of Noel-Levitz consultants having to do with admission standards and processes. Mr. Bradfield pointed out that Noel-Levitz personnel are recommending the following to improve the present admission process: (1) the two required aid applications should be simplified to one aid application (the standard FAFFA form is sufficient and makes unnecessary a separate Andrews University form); (2) the presently-required reference letters seem unnecessary for many students and might be replaced with student personal statements or other means of verification; (3) transcripts are probably unnecessary until the time of actual matriculation; (4) summer weekend orientation and registration sessions would help gain student commitment to the university; (5) improved client tracking of the admission process would alert students to their progress along the way.

**DISCUSSION OF  
PROPOSED CHANGES  
IN THE ADMISSION  
STANDARDS AND  
PROCESSES**

Sam Chuah, chair of the Academic Policies Subcommittee, reported on two proposals to speed up the admission process: (1) Fast Track 1--Students with a GPA  $\geq 3.3$  and with no grade of "D" in Math or Sciences; and (2) Fast Track 2-- Students who are not in Track 1, but with a GPA  $\geq 3.0$  and with ACT/SAT scores  $\geq 20$  and 1100

**ACADEMIC POLICIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE  
PROPOSALS FOR  
IMPROVING  
ADMISSION PROCESSES**

respectively.

The committee discussed these proposals and related ideas for speeding up the admission process. During the discussion, Charlotte Coy pointed out that only about half of the present applications for first-year students for next fall had been completely processed and that most of the others remaining unprocessed could be hurried along with the agreement of the committee to "fast-track" them with changes in present policies/procedures. The committee voted the following (amendments have been included in the final motion statement):

- (1) To implement a pilot "fast-track" approach to first-year applications presently being processed for next fall (2001) based on the following criteria:
  - a. Students with a GPA  $\geq 3.0$ , with ACT percentile of 70 or the closest SAT equivalent, and with no grade of "D" in Math or Sciences.
  - b. Waiver of the present auditing of "solids" or units for applications now pending.
  - c. Waiver of reference letters for students from SDA academies if such reference letters are replaced with approved graduation rosters as supplied by the academies or if phone calls, e-mails, or letters regarding individual students can be provided from reliable academy personnel officials.

Committee members agreed that the above motion was a first-step towards a more permanent "fast-track" approach for future handling of applications. Before the June 4 meeting, data will be gathered regarding how "fast-track" admissions criteria might have affected the academic

**VOTED: A PILOT  
"FAST-TRACK"  
APPROACH FOR  
PENDING FIRST-YEAR  
APPLICATIONS FOR  
FALL 2001**

**PLANS FOR DATA  
GATHERING ABOUT  
"FAST-TRACK"  
ADMISSIONS BEFORE  
THE JUNE 4 MEETING**

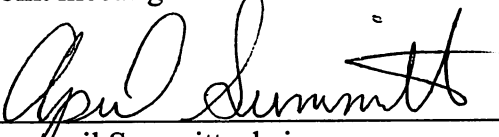
success of students in 1998, 1999, and 2000, had they been accepted under "fast-track" conditions. Would any of those accepted under the "old" admission conditions have been more or less likely to succeed had they been accepted under "fast-track" policies/procedures? Such data together with a refined proposal for a permanent "fast-track" approach will be the main agenda items for the June 4 meeting.

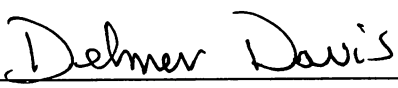
The committee members applauded Sam Chuah for the job he has done as chair of the Academic Policies Subcommittee. He is leaving that post and April Summitt is looking for a volunteer to replace him.

**SAM CHUAH THANKED  
FOR HIS CHAIRING OF  
THE ACADEMIC  
POLICIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE**

April Summitt indicated that the following unfinished business still remains ahead for the committee to consider: (1) Graduation with honors; (2) Reports from the Academic Integrity Task Force; (3) Program Review. Paula Dronen indicated that Linda Thorman, Alice Williams and she had made progress on Program Review (Academic Quality Improvement) and would be bringing recommendations to the appropriate graduate and undergraduate subcommittees in a joint meeting in the near future.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS  
FOR FUTURE  
COMMITTEE  
CONSIDERATION**

  
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April Summitt, chair

  
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Delmer Davis, secretary