



16 March 2022

To: Vancouver Senate

From: Senate Academic Policy Committee

Re: Academic Standings and Academic Achievement Designations

The Senate Academic Policy Committee reviewed proposals submitted by the IRP Student team that establish principles for streamlining academic standings and academic achievement designations across the institution. The proposed changes will allow for critical current functionality, including recording Faculty decisions around permission to continue on the student record, while also aligning terminology.

The proposals include five values for Academic Standings and three values for Additional Period Honours:

Academic Standing

- In Good Standing
- On Academic Probation
- Failed, Required to Withdraw (revised)
- Failed, Permitted to Continue (revised)
- In Review (new)

Additional Period Honours

- Dean's Scholar (revised)
- Dean's List (revised)
- None (new)

Upon approval of these principles, Faculties will continue to be able to define how academic standings and additional period honours are operationalized according to their own rules.

The following is recommended to Senate:

Motion: *"That Senate approve new and revised academic standings, as presented, effective upon implementation of Workday Student."*

and



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*“That Senate approve new and revised additional period honours, as presented,
effective upon implementation of Workday Student.”*

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Kin Lo, Chair
Senate Academic Policy Committee

Academic Standings and Academic Achievement Designations Analysis Outcome and Recommendation

For: The Senate Academic Policy Committees of UBC Vancouver and UBC Okanagan
Prepared By: Integrated Renewal Program, Student Workstream

February 25, 2022

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THE UBC ACADEMIC POLICY ISSUE

UBC has historically allowed a wide variety of terms to describe the results of the academic performance evaluation process applied to students at the end of the Winter Session and, sometimes, at the end of the Summer Session. Currently, there are more than 20 unique combinations of academic standings, designations and continuation statuses that communicate the sessional evaluation decision on a student record in SISC (see **Appendix 1**).

In addition, the designations to recognize students' academic achievements vary among Faculties and account for four names (below) currently in use across both campuses, which can be applied in a one- or two-tier system onto a student's record:

- Dean's List
- Dean's Honour List
- Dean's Honour Roll
- Science Scholar

See **Appendix 2** for data on the usage of individual designations by Faculties, degree programs, and eligible students across both campuses.

THE UBC IRP STUDENT ISSUE

Workday Student offers only **eight values** within its Academic Standing functionality to record and display the results of academic performance evaluation process and any academic achievements on the student record. These values are displayed in the fields labeled as "Academic Standing" and "Additional Period Honours" respectively and are visible to both students and staff. Even though the "Academic Standing" and "Additional Period Honours" field labels are Workday-delivered and cannot be renamed, the eight values displayed in those fields can be defined by UBC.

See **Appendix 3** for screenshots of the Academic Standing and Additional Period Honours values on a student record in Workday.

Therefore, UBC's need to represent the breadth of academic standing and academic achievement values for varied programs requires us to:

- a) create and align on new values for academic standings (in addition to the mandatory existing values of In Good Standing, On Academic Probation and Failed), and
- b) streamline current designations for academic standings and academic achievement to fit within the currently available values in Workday.

DECISIONS REQUIRED AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The joint Senate Academic Policy Committee is asked to consider and approve the principles for streamlining academic standing and academic achievement designations via two decisions: 1) an approach for configuring academic standings and academic achievement values, and 2) the desired terminology for academic standing names.

Below are the recommended five values for **Academic Standings** and three values for **Additional Period Honours**. These values reflect current functionality, with the enhancement of providing alignment of terminology across the university:

Academic Standings

- In Good Standing
- On Academic Probation
- Failed, Required to Withdraw (modified)
- Failed, Permitted to Continue (modified)
- In Review (new)

Additional Period Honours

- Dean's Scholar (streamlined)
- Dean's List (streamlined)
- None (new)

Decision 1: The recommended configuration approach is to use five out of eight available values for Academic Standings and three remaining values for Additional Period Honours:

- Five values labeled as Academic Standings will include one new and two modified values (additional to the existing two values of In Good Standing and On Academic Probation) to communicate the most critical outcomes of sessional academic performance evaluation process to students and staff;
- Three values labeled as Additional Period Honours will include two streamlined names for designations to recognize student academic achievement, preserving existing forms of recognition, and the value of "None" to meet the configuration requirements.

Decision 2: Below are the recommended names and definitions for new and streamlined values, including the rational of their configuration in Workday:

Name	Recommended Definition	Rational and Considerations for Configuration in Workday
New Academic Standings		
Failed, Required to Withdraw	A student who receives an academic standing of Failed, Required to Withdraw will be required to discontinue studies at the University as of the start of the Session following the decision to award the standing. At the discretion of the Faculty or School, a student	Rational: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One term, one meaning: Rather than having a single term, "Failed", this will differentiate the outcomes of standing "Failed, Required to Withdraw" from "Failed, Permitted to Continue", clarifying that, while both standings represent the value of "Failed", they are separate from one another and produce a different outcome for the student and on the student record.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Other attempted solutions, which proved unworkable, included:

	<p>registered in and attending one or more courses in the Session during which the continuation evaluation occurred will be permitted to complete those courses. A student appealing to be permitted to continue their studies immediately despite having received an academic standing of Failed, Required to Withdraw may not register for, or attend, courses while awaiting the results of the appeal, except as noted above.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using a program of study status or status reason approximating Required to Withdraw; ○ Using only “Failed” without assigning a status. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align outcome with academic period: Attach not only the academic standing of “Failed”, but also the practical outcome of that standing for the student to session that produced it. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This will provide clarity on the student record about the reason for the discontinuation in studies for those students studying in the Summer Session during which the continuation evaluation was completed – regardless of their academic performance in the Summer Session, the decision to require withdrawal was based on their academic performance in the prior Winter Session. • Reduce chance of human error: Provide clarity to Enrolment Services in regards to which students should be included in the Mass Update process to remove registration access, and reduce a chance of human error that would prevent an eligible student from registering. • Differentiate Withdraw from Discontinued: Disassociate “Discontinued”, the Workday-delivered term related to ending a program of study for any reason, from Failed academic standing and the requirement for a student to leave their studies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instances of “Discontinued” in Workday Student will include moving from a general degree program to one with a major, or dropping a major or minor, so the majority of UBC students will have at least one instance on their record. Creating this distinction will promote student wellbeing and understanding of their standing at the university, and help to prevent oversubscribing advising resources. • Transcript clarity: Provide clarity to students and advisors, and visibility on the student record and transcript, of the outcome of the continuation decision. • Align terminology: Align Graduate and Undergraduate terminology for students required to leave the university. <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rules to be defined by each Faculty or School.
Failed, Permitted to Continue	<p>A student who has successfully appealed an academic standing of Failed, Required to Withdraw will be permitted to continue their studies immediately.</p>	<p>Rational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One term, one meaning: Rather than having a single term, “Failed”, this will differentiate the outcomes of standing “Failed, Required to Withdraw” from “Failed, Permitted to Continue”, clarifying that, while both standings represent the value of “Failed”, they are separate from one another and produce a different outcome for the student and on the student record. • Critical gap: Address an identified critical gap of not being able to communicate “Permitted to Continue” standing on the student record. Deliver, as far as possible, current state practices for Faculties and programs at the undergraduate level who permit continuation appeals.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Other attempted solutions, which proved unworkable, included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Using a program of study status or status reason approximating “Permitted to Continue”; ○ Changing the standing to In Good Standing or Academic Probation; ○ Using only “Failed” without assigning a status. • Communication of decision: Provide clarity and visibility into a decision to permit students continue their studies by recording it in the system, as well as enabling decision tracking, promoting information sharing, and reducing the chances of human error in processing discontinuation. • Reduce chance of human error: Differentiate between students permitted to continue and those not yet discontinued due to Summer registration. This, in turn, supports Enrolment Services in processing Mass Updates with accuracy so students are not accidentally excluded from registration. <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeal process to be defined by each Faculty or School. • Failed, Permitted to Continue would not be awarded automatically, but would instead be placed on the record by the student’s Faculty or program upon successful appeal of their Failed, Required to Withdraw standing.
In Review	A student who receives a temporary academic standing of In Review will be assigned another, permanent, standing once the review of their academic performance for a given academic period is finalized.	<p>Rational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A temporary, administrative standing, to be used as a placeholder on the student record when it is not yet possible to determine the student’s final academic standing <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary administrative value to be replaced by one of the other four values once any missing or incomplete information is made available or other circumstances resolved. • Rules to be defined by each Faculty or School.
Streamlined Additional Period Honours		
Dean’s Scholar	Higher level of academic achievement recognition in a two-tier recognition system. Students will receive the notation “Dean’s Scholar” on their records for a given academic period based on their program-specific requirements for academic performance and credit load.	<p>Rational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue allowing for a two-tier system in recognizing student academic achievements <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculties and programs will, individually, continue to establish criteria and define their own rule-sets for the standings they use • Faculties and programs may also choose not to award Additional Period Honours.
Dean’s List	Recognition of Academic Achievement. In a single-tier recognition system, this is the only value awarded. In a two-tier recognition system, this is the lower of the two values. Students will receive the notation “Dean’s List” on their records for	<p>Rational:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with the name used by the majority of Faculties/Schools, degree programs, and eligible students across both campuses. <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculties and programs will, individually, continue to establish criteria and define their own rule-sets for the standings they use

	a given academic period based on their program-specific requirements for academic performance and credit load.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculties and programs may also choose not to award Additional Period Honours
None	Administrative value to indicate that no academic achievement recognition has been awarded to a student for a given academic period.	Functionality-required value. If Faculties and programs choose not to award Additional Period Honours, the value “None” will be assigned.

APPENDIX 1: List of Current Combinations of Academic Standings, Designations and Continuation Statuses

Vancouver	
Academic Standing	Continuation Status
Academic Probation	Eligible to Continue
Academic Probation	May not re-register in this Faculty
Academic Probation	Not Eligible to Continue
Academic Probation	Required to Discontinue
Academic Probation	Required to Withdraw
Academic Probation	Permitted to Continue
Dean's List	Eligible to Continue
Dean's List	Not Eligible to Continue
Dean's List	Required to Discontinue
Dean's List	Permitted to Continue
Failed	Eligible to Continue
Failed	Not Eligible to Continue
Failed	Required to Discontinue
Failed	Required to Withdraw
Failed	Permitted to Continue
Good Standing	Eligible to Continue
Good Standing	May not re-register in this Faculty
Good Standing	Not Eligible to Continue
Good Standing	Required to Discontinue
Good Standing	Permitted to Continue
Science Scholar	Eligible to Continue
Science Scholar	Not Eligible to Continue

Okanagan	
Academic Standing	Continuation Status
Academic Probation	Eligible to Continue
Academic Probation	Required to Discontinue
Academic Probation	Permitted to Continue
Dean's List	Eligible to Continue
Failed	Eligible to Continue
Failed	Not Eligible to Continue
Failed	Required to Discontinue
Failed	Required to Withdraw
Failed	Permitted to Continue
Good Standing	Eligible to Continue
Good Standing	Required to Discontinue
Good Standing	Permitted to Continue

APPENDIX 2: Usage of Designations by Campus, Faculty, Program and Students

Currently, UBC has a two-tier system for awarding designations, although only Faculty of Science (Vancouver) uses the second tier (654 awarded in 20W). The majority of Faculties/Schools, degree programs, and eligible students across both campuses (and on each campus individually) use “Dean’s List”.

Dean's List		Dean's Honour List		Dean's Honour Roll		Science Scholar		None	
Vancouver	Arts	Vancouver	Applied Science	Vancouver	Commerce	Vancouver	Science	Vancouver	Kinesiology
Vancouver	Creative Writing	Vancouver	Pharmacy	Vancouver	Forestry			Vancouver	Nursing
Vancouver	Music	Vancouver	Science	Vancouver	LFS			Vancouver	Education
Vancouver	Economics	Vancouver	SALA	Okanagan	Management			Vancouver	Law
Okanagan	Arts and Social Sciences	Okanagan	Applied Science	Okanagan	Health & Exercise Science			Okanagan	Nursing
Okanagan	Creative and Critical Studies (BA, BMS)	Okanagan	Creative and Critical Studies (BFA)					Okanagan	Education
Okanagan	Science								

Designations Awarded by Number of Students in 2020 Winter Session

Name	Number of Eligible Students	Number of Students Awarded
Dean’s List	20,362	2,518
Dean’s Honour List	16,479	4,380
Dean’s Honour Roll	8,719	2,740

APPENDIX 3: Visibility of Academic Standing and Additional Period Honours to Students and Staff

The names are visible to students and staff (e.g., advisors) on the **Academic History** page in Workday.

Student Test Student

✓ **Faculty of Arts/Undergraduate (Major in Economics (Vancouver)/B.A., Major in Psychology (Vancouver))**

Coursework

✓ 2021-22 Winter Term 1 (UBC-V)

Academic Period 2021-22 Winter Term 1 (UBC-V)

Turn on the new tables view ☐

Enrollments 1 item

	Course	Grade	Grade Points	Credits	Earned Grade Points
Q	ANTH_V 220 - FIRST NATIONS BC	A	89.000	3	267.000
Total:				3	267.000

Academic Period Totals

Credits Attempted 3

Credits Earned 3

GPA Credits 3

Cumulative Totals

Cumulative Credits Attempted 36

Cumulative Credits Earned 30

Student Standings

Academic Standing In Review

Additional Period Honors/Standing None