

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number 5817S
Date of Senate Approval 05/04/17

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 51:

Change to the Class Withdrawal Deadline

Effective Date: Fall 2017

1. Delete: On page 42, under **Schedule Adjustment Week**, the first paragraph concerning withdrawals

Withdraw—After the Schedule Adjustment Week, a student may withdraw from a full-semester course through the end of the 6th week of class, and a Term I or Term II course through the end of the 12th day of classes. A student who withdraws in this way will receive a grade of W for the course. Withdrawal (W) hours count as Attempted Hours and are used in the calculations for tuition surcharge and academic standing.

Add: On page 42, in place of deleted entry:

Withdraw—After the Schedule Adjustment Week, a student may withdraw from a full-semester course through the end of the 8th week of class, and a Term I or Term II course through the end of the 16th day of classes. A student who withdraws in this way will receive a grade of W for the course. Withdrawal (W) hours count as Attempted Hours and are used in the calculations for tuition surcharge and academic standing.

Impact: Students will have more information about how they are doing in each course if the withdrawal deadline is later, and may be able to make more informed decisions about the need to withdraw. There is unlikely to be a negative impact on course enrollment, as students will still be restricted to three withdrawals over the course of their UNCA careers. The Student Accounts Office and Housing Office may opt to recalibrate the refund schedule to match the change in date.

Rationale: In response to UNC General Administration's mandate *Fostering Undergraduate Student Success (FUSS)*, in 2012 we made our withdrawal policy more restrictive. In Fall 2012, we reduced the number of courses from which students can withdraw *and* moved the withdrawal deadline from the end of the ninth week of classes to the end of the sixth week. The two issues (number of withdrawals and withdrawal date) should, in fact, be considered separately. There is a strong rationale for retaining the 3-W limit put in place in Fall 2013, but the benefits of the earlier withdrawal date have not been readily apparent; the earlier deadline may actually be an impediment to student success.

Many faculty members struggle to give students substantive graded experiences by the end of the sixth week of the semester, so students are often making decisions about withdrawing based on a small number of grades that reflect a small percentage of the course total. Moving the withdrawal deadline to the end of the 8th week of classes would keep us in compliance with *FUSS*, which specifies that the withdrawal deadline must occur no later than the 60% mark in the semester, but would also mean students have more opportunity to discern their standing within a particular class. Further, moving the withdrawal deadline would keep our procedures more closely aligned with those of other UNC system schools.

<u>UNC School</u>	<u># of Weeks</u>
UNC Asheville	6
UNC Greensboro	7
UNC Wilmington	7
UNC School of the Arts	7
North Carolina Central Univ	8
UNC Chapel Hill	8
North Carolina State Univ	9
Western Carolina Univ	9
Appalachian State Univ	10
East Carolina Univ	10
UNC Charlotte	10
UNC Pembroke	10
Winston Salem State Univ	10
Fayetteville State Univ	11
North Carolina A&T Univ	11
Elizabeth City State Univ	12