POLICY TITLE: Student Progress and Exclusion

Purpose
To ensure all students and staff follow the Photography Studies College (PSC) policy, principles and procedures related to student progress throughout the student life-cycle.

Policy
Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Photography course are subject to satisfactory course progress and completion requirements. Unsatisfactory progress may result in exclusion processes. This Policy and Procedure sets out the principles and processes to be followed in order to monitor the progress of all students and in dealing with students who might be categorised as not meeting academic progression requirements and that may ultimately lead to possible exclusion.

PSC attends to the needs of students regarding their academic progress by:

- Ensuring students are fully aware of academic progression requirements
- Identifying and alerting students not meeting these requirements
- Identifying and alerting students who may be deemed ‘At Risk’ with regard to their progress in certain subjects
- Providing assistance to students in order to address issues affecting progression

Satisfactory Progress

- Students are required to complete all subjects in a particular year level in order to be eligible to progress to the following year level.

- Under exceptional circumstances students may be permitted to proceed without successful completion of all subjects provided they (i) have completed the necessary pre-requisites for the subjects about to be undertaken and (ii) that they will repeat any failed subjects.

- Being permitted to proceed to the next year of the course does not in itself imply or infer that subjects have been completed or passed.

Procedures
‘At Risk’ Status

A student may be deemed “At Risk”:

- By a teacher if they have poor academic performance in a subject or subjects. This will be identified at regular teachers meetings or
- They have unsatisfactory attendance
A student who has a status of "At Risk" for a study period is required to attend a meeting of the Course Progress Committee about their academic progress.

The Course Progress Committee may specify a study program that the student is required to undertake and may recommend other action which the student may take to improve their performance. Where a study program is specified, the details are to be advised to the student in writing and placed on the student’s file.

Exclusion

- Where a student is deemed ‘At Risk’ and has failed to successfully complete the prescribed study program as advised by the Course Progress Committee, over a period of two study periods, the student may be notified to show cause as to why they should not be excluded from the course.

- The notification will give a due date for a response, being 14 days from the date of the notification.

- This response will be considered by the Course Progress Committee, and a decision about the student’s ability to continue is determined.

- If no response is received, or if the committee deems it appropriate, the student will be excluded from the course.

- The student has a right to appeal this decision in line with the PSC Grievance Handling Policy & Procedure.

- Where a student’s appeal against exclusion is upheld, the student may resume their enrolment in the course.

- An application for re-admission after exclusion will be assessed by the Academic Director in consultation with the Director Communication & Students.

Definitions

Exclusion
Exclusion means that the student is not permitted to remain enrolled in the course. However, the student may re-apply for admission to the Academic Director after a period of 12 months after the relevant study period for which the Exclusion was enforced.

Study period
This refers to a single cycle of the period of study in which a subject is taken.

At Risk
At Risk status means a student’s poor progress in a subject, or a series of subjects, is placing them in danger of failing that subject (or subjects) and not being able to progress further.

Show Cause
Where a student is asked to “show cause”, it means that PSC requires a student to provide a written justification as to why they should not be excluded from the course.
Unsatisfactory attendance
This is attendance that falls below the required 80% attendance threshold for a particular subject.

Related Documentation

Policies
Fair Treatment and Equal Benefits and Opportunity
Grievance Handling Policy and Procedure
Assessment
Course Completion and Graduation

Procedures, Forms & Documents
Risk of Unsatisfactory Progress Letter

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