ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) recently revised the statewide admissions policy. The admissions policy at Shepherd University also is being updated, consistent with changes in the admissions operation, as well as to make it conform to the current HEPC policy. The draft admissions policy was posted for public comment in the spring, and several changes have been made since then. The revised draft was again posted for public comment, and no additional comments were received during the latter public comment period. The recent changes have been approved by the Faculty Senate President and the Executive Staff. The changes are not indicated with strike-throughs and underlines because the format was extensively reworked to produce a more concisely written policy.

Substantive changes being proposed in the admissions policy include the following:

1. The admissions standards would be the same for in-state and out-of-state students. This would place Shepherd’s policy in line with the other colleges and universities in West Virginia.

2. Language would be removed requiring students from non-accredited high schools and home-schooled students to take the GED. Many public high schools in West Virginia and elsewhere are not accredited by regional accrediting agencies because of the expense involved, and Shepherd’s policy could be interpreted to require their students to take the GED as well as students at private high schools and those who have been home-schooled.

3. The requirement for students to apply for readmission when they have left Shepherd for one semester would be changed. That period of time would be extended to two consecutive semesters, excluding summers. The time frame would be the same for undergraduate and graduate students, partly because of the technical limitations of our student information system (Banner) to accommodate more than one option in this data field.

The following resolution is recommended for adoption by the Board:

RESOLVED, That the Shepherd University Board of Governors approves the Admissions Policy, Policy 27, as presented in the agenda book, to become effective immediately; and

FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED, That at the time the Community and Technical College of Shepherd becomes an independent institution, references to it will be removed from the University’s policy.