

**WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE**

**PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes of 18 January 2017
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center**

Members Present: Kelly Ackerson, Rob Eversole, Melissa Intindola, Valerian Kwigizile, Nora Lewis, Cindy Linn, John Miller, Mary Ellen Sartoris

Member Absent: Marcel Zondag

Ex Officio Member Present: John Jellies

Advisory Members Present: Nicole Allbee, Director, Office of Student Conduct, Kathy Mitchell, Ombudsman

Guest: Bret Wagner, Faculty Senate Executive Board Director

Staff: Sue Brodasky

The meeting was called to order by Chair Eversole at 12:32 p.m. Welcome and introductions were conducted.

PROCEDURAL ITEMS

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Linn, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of 16 November 2016 Minutes

A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Linn, to approve the 16 November 2016 minutes as provided. Motion carried.

Chairs Remarks – Eversole

Introductions were made and Eversole welcomed new members. He noted that a couple of new projects will be coming before the committee which will be discussed today.

ACTION / INFORMATION ITEMS

Program Change with Grade Forgiveness Policy – Wagner

The report was distributed with the meeting materials prior to the meeting. Wagner provided a history of the request to transfer students from a department in which they are not succeeding to another and being allowed to forgive grades. On the student transcript it would appear like a course was repeated but actually, it would be replaced with a new course. Discussion was held. Edits were provided for grammar on the form. Allbee requested that language be added to indicate that grades, which are a result of academic integrity violations, are not applicable. Following

discussion of the proposed three courses allotted, it was determined it should be changed to 3 courses up to a maximum of 12 credit hours. Eversole suggested the creation of a policy for application of the process. Discussion was held regarding departmental/faculty approval of transfer. It was determined that the accepting program would be notified of grade forgiveness but not have direct approval. Additionally, the advisor should have the same notification rather than approval. A question was raised regarding affects on financial aid. Mitchell confirmed that if it is managed the same as academic forgiveness there would be no ramifications to financial aid. It was suggested that Wagner review the proposal with the financial aid office/staff. The revised report will be reviewed again at the February meeting.

Academic Integrity Process – Allbee

Allbee distributed a handout indicating the increase in cases, as well as the number of students who do not accept responsibility, and the increase in students electing to go to panels. The Academic Integrity Committee continues to have trouble getting faculty to participate. While 34 faculty are trained to serve, only seven participate, and three are needed for each hearing. Discussion was held regarding the data provided. It was suggested that this issue be presented to the provost council to make deans and chairs aware.

Admission Criteria Discussion

Student Misconduct Appeal Process Discussion

A motion was made by Jellies, seconded by Miller, to postpone the remaining agenda items. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m. by Chair Eversole. The next meeting will be 15 February 2017.

Sue Brodasky, Faculty Senate Administrator