Proposed Revisions to Clarify Expectations Around Course Grading and Communication

- Provisional Draft After Faculty Senate Meeting March 22, 2023 -

Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas, representatives from Student Government have put forward a request that faculty add language to their syllabi regarding expected timelines for returning graded coursework and guidelines for course communication, such as policies around email usage and response times; and

Whereas, Faculty Senate leadership, in consultation with Academic Affairs and Student Government, have identified a series of proposed changes to Policy Statement 29, Management of Courses and Classes, and Policy Statement 45, Courses and Curricula, which retain faculty authority over their classes while allowing for increased clarity regarding course expectations; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate recommends that the first sentence of the second paragraph of Section III. General Policy of Policy Statement 29, which currently reads “The course syllabus must specify information to the student about the course, including course objectives, grading policies, topics, textbooks and reference materials” be revised to read “The course syllabus must specify information to the student about the course, including course objectives, grading policies, topics, textbooks and reference materials. It is suggested that anticipated timelines for returning graded coursework, and a course communications policy also be included.”;

Resolved, that the Faculty Senate recommends that the sample syllabus and syllabus outline be removed from Appendix A of Policy Statement 45 to reduce confusion and potential conflict with the syllabus guidelines outlined in Policy Statement 29.