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UNH FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE MOTION # III-M7

Faculty Senate

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UNH FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE MOTION # III-M7

1. Faculty Senate Committee: Academic Affairs Committee.
2. Committee Chairperson: Deborah Winslow.
3. Date of Faculty Senate Discussion: 4/19/99.
4. Committee/Administrator Responsible for Implementation: Provost/VPAA.
5. Motion:

(See attached.)

6. Rationale:

7. Senate Action: Passed 4/19/99

Vote: unanimously

Chair's verification:



Date: 4/21/99

Forwarded to: President Leitzel

Date: 4/21/99

Walter Eggers, Provost & VPAA

Date: 4/21/99

Date: _____

Date: _____

Subject: Final Version of UCAPC Approved by Faculty Senate on 4/19/99

The University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee

Preamble: Academic Values

The purpose of the University Curriculum and Academic Policy Committee is to uphold the academic mission, integrity, and priorities of the university. To accomplish this, the UCAPC shall seek to support and balance the goals that result naturally from our core academic values:

Our academic values include our commitment to excellence in our particular fields of study, as expressed in our teaching, our research, and our support of our departments and programs.

Our academic values also include our commitment to teaching and research beyond the boundaries of our individual departments and colleges. We recognize that disciplinary boundaries frequently are artificial and believe that there should be no impediments to crossing them whenever necessary for interdisciplinary courses, majors, programs (including General Education), and research.

Finally, our academic values include our commitment to the idea of a university as a community in itself and as a contributor to the larger communities to which we all belong. We all benefit when we have confidence that the ideals of excellence are being supported throughout the university, in scholarship, curricula, the arts, athletics, and service for the common good, whether or not we participate directly in these activities ourselves.

In balancing these three levels of commitment, the UCAPC's focus must remain on academic excellence and integrity, independent of budgetary issues. We recognize that there never will be resources fully adequate to do everything possible. But as we make and support choices among alternative uses, we emphasize that the standard by which fiscal decisions should be judged is their effect on university academic goals, never vice versa. A good budget system serves academic priorities; it does not define them.

Responsibilities of the UCAPC

The UCAPC is responsible for advising the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost on all academic and curricular matters that have intercollege and/or campus wide effects or are likely to affect the overall quality or integrity of the realization of the university's academic mission. The UCAPC does not replace the curriculum and academic policy committees of the schools and colleges. However, the UCAPC has the authority to review the decisions of those bodies when they are deemed by the

UCAPC or by affected parties to have impacts beyond the school or college in which they originate. More generally, the UCAPC is responsible for supporting the integrity of education at the University of New Hampshire.

In particular, the UCAPC shall:

1. Advise on the resolution of conflicts between schools and colleges over "ownership" or "principle residence" of academic areas. For this purpose, the UCAPC shall design and implement a process of public review and commentary for all curricular changes in colleges and schools.
2. Monitor policy changes and apparent trends that affect or have the potential to affect academic quality. Possibilities might include monitoring average class sizes, grading norms, credit hour allocation, and use of temporary faculty. The UCAPC may also hear complaints in these areas and make recommendations for their resolution. The committee has the authority to obtain data directly from the university's Office of Institutional Research.
3. Monitor and advise on the adequacy of the use of discretionary funds intended to support programs essential to the university's academic mission but not necessarily able to be revenue generating or self supporting.
4. Consult and advise on campus wide curricular matters (such as the General Education Program, policies regarding declaring majors, and the support of interdisciplinary courses and programs).
5. Compile and maintain records of campus academic policies.
6. Periodically review UNH academic policies and programs in comparison with comparable institutions and make appropriate recommendations.

UCAPC Structure and Organization

A. Name of Committee

University Curriculum and Academic Policies Committee (UCAPC)

B. Relation to Faculty Senate

1. The UCAPC will be a committee of the Faculty Senate.
2. The UCAPC will report all decisions to the Senate in a timely way. In addition, at the end of each academic year, the committee will provide the Senate with a full written report of the UCAPC's decisions, cases, and activities over that year.

C. Membership

The UCAPC will consist currently of 15 members.

1. Eleven tenured faculty members who are not also administrators.

(a) The faculty members shall represent the schools and colleges in proportion to the size of their faculties. Specifically, each school or college with less than 75 permanent Full Time Equivalent Faculty (tenure track and non-tenure track combined) will have 1 representative; more than 75 but less than 150, will have 2; and any with greater than 150 will have 3. Currently, this formula produces the following representation:

COLA	3
CEPS	2
HHS	2
COLSA	2
WSBE	1
UNHM	1

(b) A minimum of two members of the UCAPC at any time must be members of the Faculty Senate. They will be the Senate Chair or that person's designee from the Agenda Committee; and a member of the Academic Affairs Committee.

(c) The faculty seats on the UCAPC will be selected in the following manner:

A slate of candidates for faculty members of the UCAPC will be made up by the Agenda Committee of the Faculty Senate with the advice of the Senate. Advice will be sought by the Agenda Committee by circulating a list of all eligible faculty to each member of the Faculty Senate. The Senators will be requested to solicit suggestions from their departments and forward their choices to the Agenda Committee. The Agenda Committee, advised by but not limited to these suggestions, will then compose a slate of candidates. They will submit the slate to the full Senate for confirmation.

(d) The term of service is three years, with staggered terms.

(e) Committee members may be reappointed.

(f) When a member is unable to complete his or her term, the Agenda Committee will appoint a replacement for the balance of the term.

2. Two students.

(a) The Chair of the Graduate Student Organization or that person's designee.

5/24/99 The
Agenda Com agrees
to include a member
of the Graduate Col
on the UCAPC
slate.

(b) The President of the Student Body or that person's designee.

(c) The term of service for student members is two years.

3. Two members of the administration.

(a) The Vice President for Academic Affairs or that person's designee.

(b) The Chair of the Academic Standards and Advising Committee or that person's designee.

D. Organization

1. The UCAPC will have a Chair and a Vice Chair who shall be elected for one-year terms by the UCAPC from among its members. Both the Chair and the Vice Chair must be faculty members. The Chair (or in that person's absence, the Vice Chair) shall preside at all meetings of the UCAPC.

2. Each faculty member of the UCAPC shall normally be given a one course reduction in teaching load in the third year of his or her term. The Chair will be given a one course reduction in teaching load for each year of service as Chair.

3. Only the faculty and student members of the committee shall be voting members.

4. The UCAPC will communicate all decisions both to the Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost for executive action and to the Faculty Senate in a timely way. In addition, at the end of each academic year, the committee will provide the VPAA/Provost with a copy of its report to the Senate. [Please see the preamble of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate.]