




University Academic Senate
Executive Committee of the Senate
Kristine Mullendore, Chair 2009-10
Lawrence Burns, 2009-10

Memorandum

TO: Cynthia Beel-Bates, Chair, Academic Policies and Standards Committee
FROM: Kristine Mullendore, Chair, ECS/UAS 
SUBJECT: Agenda for 2009-10
DATE: August 28, 2009
CC: Gayle R. Davis, Provost
ECS Members
APSC Members

At its retreat in May the Executive Committee of UAS agreed that we should continue to offer some guidance to the standing committees as they embark upon another academic year. This assistance is intended to support the ongoing work of the members of each committee as they identify and prioritize agenda items for the upcoming academic year.

Attached for your reference is the section from the Faculty Handbook which outlines the regular responsibilities of your standing committee. In attending to these regular duties, ECS would like you, as time permits, to address the following matters in no particular order:

1. Academic Amnesty

Using the report from the 2008-09 Academic Integrity Committee as a resource, continue to consider GVSU policies as to whether, and under what circumstances, qualifying students could be permitted to petition to void grades in selected courses or even entire semesters,

2. Academic Integrity

Using the report from the 2008-09 Academic Integrity Committee and input from the forums held in 2008-9 as resources, consider possible revisions to the policies and processes for addressing issues of academic integrity at Grand Valley,

3. Grade Inflation

Examine the degree to which, if at all, grade inflation occurs at Grand Valley among its various Colleges and programs in comparison with its peer institutions and share those findings with the Executive Committee of the Senate along with any committee recommendations for action, and

4. Double Degrees Within a Major

Support the University Curriculum Committee in its consideration of whether or not to allow Grand Valley students to earn double degrees within one major department in the development and revision of university policies to support these "double degrees" whenever they are deemed appropriate.

a. Academic Policies and Standards Committee (APSC):

- i. Faculty Membership: Faculty membership of the APSC consists of four faculty members from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, one from each of the remaining colleges, and one from the University Libraries. One additional faculty member elected by and from the UAS. The term of office is two years beginning at the end of the winter semester; terms are staggered.
- ii. Student Membership: One student representative selected by the Student Senate for a one-year term.
- iii. Administration Membership: Provost or designee ex officio, non-voting.
- iv. Responsibilities: To study, review, and make pertinent recommendations on academic policies and procedures including admission, retention and dismissal, repeat grades, withdrawal, academic calendar, and suspension of library privileges. The scope of study and review of the Academic Policies and Standards Committee is limited by the published “purposes” of other standing committees of the University Academic Senate.