

**Plymouth State University**

**FACULTY MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

3:35 – 5:00 PM, Heritage Commons

- I. Approval of the draft minutes** of the February 3, 2010 meeting. Minutes are available online on the Faculty Governance blog. You will be required to log in to myPlymouth to view the minutes. Use the headings to the left and click on “Faculty Meeting Minutes.” Then, in the right-hand column, click on the link below the title, “Faculty Meeting minutes, February 3, 2010, DRAFT.” The Faculty Governance Blog may be found at <http://facultygovernance.blogs.plymouth.edu/>

**II. Reports**

- A. Sara Jayne Steen, President
- B. Julie Bernier, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**III. New Business**

- A. Resolutions of the Standing Committees—none.
- B. **MOTION from the ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE** (Eric Hoffman): To change the catalog policy regarding the Early Evaluation process, as follows:

**Substantive changes are indicated in bold.**

*Proposed New Policy:*

**All students are evaluated at the end of the first six weeks of classes during the fall and spring semesters.** Instructors of full-semester courses submit grades on students’ performance. Students are urged to discuss these grades with their advisors and instructors. All first-semester, first-year students (those who have attempted fewer than 12 credits), after consultation with the advisor and instructor(s), may drop full-semester course(s) within two weeks after notice of the early evaluation.

*Current Policy (on p. 51 of the 2009-2010 catalog, under the “Grading System” heading and the “Early Evaluation” sub-heading):*

To provide early evaluation for first-semester, first-year students (those who have attempted fewer than 12 credits), at the end of the first six weeks of classes, instructors of full-semester courses submit grades on these students’ performance. These students are urged to discuss these grades with their advisors and instructors. After consultation with the advisor and instructor(s), these first-year students may drop full-semester course(s) within two week after notice of the early evaluation.

**RATIONALE:** In the ongoing effort to help students succeed academically and to make informed decisions about their academic progress, it seems prudent to provide early evaluations for all students, not just first-year, first-semester students.

- C. **MOTION from ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (Eric Hoffman):** To change the catalog policy regarding the Academic Integrity Process to allow expulsion as a possible penalty for a first-time academic integrity offense.

**RATIONALE:** The current policy does not allow the Panel to recommend expulsion from the University, only suspension. We would like to give the Panel this authority. Clearly, the Panel would only make this recommendation for the most egregious cases, which would be exceedingly rare.

The change (addition) is indicated in **bold**.

*Addition to current policy (on p. 44 of the 2009-2010 catalog, under subheading "Penalties," in paragraph one, regarding possible penalties for first-time offenses):*

In those cases where, in the judgment of the Panel of Academic Integrity, the offense is unusually serious, the panel may also decide to suspend the students from the University for no more than one year **or expel the students**.

#### **IV. Announcements**

#### **V. Adjournment**

**The Faculty Meeting will immediately be followed by a Faculty Forum on benefits.**