January 22, 2016

To: Dean Van Galen, Chancellor  
   116 North Hall  
   University of Wisconsin-River Falls

From: James Graham, Chair  
       Faculty Senate  
       University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Re: UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2015-16/50

The following motion was passed by a vote of 15 in favor, 3 opposed and 1 abstention by the Faculty Senate on January 20, 2016:

A motion from the Academic Standards Committee (Imtiaz Moosa, Chair) to approve the following:

Proposal for an amendment to Chapter IX of the Faculty and Staff Handbook by inserting a new section, 9.13 Academic Forgiveness Policy for Undergraduate Students Returning to UWRF (attached)

\[\checkmark\] Approved

\[\] Disapproved

Dean Van Galen, Chancellor
Chapter IX – Academic Standards, Procedures and Policies

9.13 Academic Forgiveness Policy for Undergraduate Students Returning to UWRF

9.13.1 Academic Forgiveness Policy

The Academic Forgiveness Policy allows students who experienced prior academic difficulty at UWRF to have one opportunity to have all previous UWRF grades excluded from the cumulative grade point average (GPA). The Academic Forgiveness Policy provides the opportunity for the calculation of a new grade point average for all subsequent coursework for students being readmitted to UWRF.

9.13.2 Restrictions and Explanations

1. Students must not have been enrolled in any institution of higher learning for at least five continuous years prior to readmission to UWRF except for completion of courses that were a precondition for admission/readmission.

2. Students can apply for Academic Forgiveness at the time of reentry.

3. To be eligible for Academic Forgiveness, a student must have a cumulative GPA of less than 2.5 at UWRF at the time of readmission.

4. The request for forgiveness must be approved by the Academic Department Chair and Dean of the College in which the student is applying.

5. If forgiveness is granted, all UWRF courses taken five or more years prior to readmission (and the grades received) will continue to appear on the student's record, but the student's cumulative GPA will be based solely on credits earned after readmission to UWRF.

6. If forgiveness is granted, all credit hours with a grade of "D" or better earned five or more years before readmission may be used to satisfy degree requirements even though they are not included in the student's cumulative GPA.

7. If forgiveness is granted, grades in courses for the major will still count towards the major GPA.

8. Forgiveness of grades earned five or more years before admission/readmission may be granted only once.

9. All other UWRF policies remain in effect and are not changed by the granting of Academic Forgiveness.

10. This policy applies to only undergraduate students seeking their first bachelor's degree.
11. This policy is effective starting Fall semester, 2016-17.
12. Applicants who intend to use or apply for financial aid should contact the Financial Aid Office to identify how Academic Forgiveness may affect financial aid eligibility.

9.13.3 Procedures:

1. Student applies for Academic Forgiveness by completing the Academic Forgiveness section on the reentry application.
2. The Registrar’s Office will forward the Academic Forgiveness application to the Academic Department Chair of the department in which the student is applying.
3. The application must be approved by the Academic Department Chair and Dean of the College in which the student is applying.
4. The Dean will submit the application to the Registrar’s Office.
5. The form is filed with the Registrar. If approved, the student’s transcript is updated.
6. When Academic Forgiveness has been granted, the student's transcript will be annotated to indicate the term(s) in which Academic Forgiveness has been granted. The previously earned grades will still show on the transcript to reflect the true academic history of the student; however, grade points will be removed so that prior grades are excluded from the computation of the student's official cumulative GPA.