September 8, 2015

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

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

Re:    UWRF Faculty Senate Motion 2015-16/9

The following motion was approved by the Faculty Senate 20-0-1 on September 2, 2015:

A motion from the Executive Committee to amend the Program Prioritization and Program Audit and Review document (page 11) as follows:

E. Five-year trend of median time to degree for academic program degree completers.

Points: Forty points are allocated to this measure.

Process: Institutional Research will provide this figure to the Program and Audit Review Committee. The median number of semesters to degree of students (i.e., those who transfer in fewer than 15 credits) graduating from a specific program will be calculated for each year (a year will be defined to end on June 30, encompassing the previous summer, fall, and spring graduates). The median scores for each year in the five year period will be aggregated and then divided by five, resulting in an “average” median score for each program. These scores will be converted into percentages. Specifically, undergraduate majors can typically be completed in four years, and typical graduate programs can be completed in two years. The percentage above/below the required number of years for each program are used. Institutional Research will report the figures to the Program Audit and Review Committee. The PAR Committee will create a continuum, with low scores considered preferable. The resulting range will be divided into 40 discrete and equally weighted categories starting with one point and ending with forty points. Subsequently, each program’s “Median time to degree” result will be placed onto the continuum to determine its points (see example of this in the “working definitions” section titled “scoring categories”).
Approved  

Disapproved  

Dean Van Galen, Chancellor  

Date  9/12/15