

TO:

Kathleen Puckett

President, University Senate

FROM:

Mark S. Searle

Executive Vice President and Provost

CC:

Deborah Clarke

Vice Provost for Academic Personnel

RE:

Senate motions

DATE:

August 15, 2016

**Re:** Senate Motion 2016-56: Resolution in support of health plan benefits that provide transgender services for faculty and staff

Thank you for the resolution. We believe in and support inclusion. However, because health plans are controlled by the state of Arizona, this is not within our purview to change.

**Re:** Senate Motion 2015-70: Academic Professional membership in the academic assembly I do not support including year-to-year academic professionals in the academic assembly.

Re: Senate Motion 2015-28: Establishing Responsibility for Safety-Proposed ACD 307

While this motion is well-intentioned, this motion opens up questions of oversight and training that are not addressed. I will ask Leon Igras, Executive Director of Environmental Health and Safety to assess whether we have appropriate safety protocols and communications.

Re: Senate Motion 2015-47: How Long Students Should Wait for an Absent Instructor

In order to implement this policy, the Senate should vote to revise ACD 304-10, to add the language. When doing so, please add the following:

In the event the instructor fails to indicate a time obligation, the time obligation will be 15 minutes for class sessions lasting 90 minutes or less and 30 minutes for class sessions lasting more than 90 minutes. Students may be directed to wait longer by someone from the academic unit if they know instructor will arrive shortly.

Re: Senate Motion 2016-30: Missed classes due to University-sanctioned activities

This motion is approved pending the revisions below:

## **Proposed Policy**

Students who participate in university-sanctioned activities that require classes to be missed, shall be given opportunities to make up examinations and other graded in-class work. However, absence from class or examinations due to university-sanctioned activities does not relieve students from responsibility for any part of the course work required during the period of the absence.

The provost of the university or designee shall determine, for the purposes of this policy, whether a particular event qualifies as a university-sanctioned activity.

In each college, a specific individual (e.g., dean's designee) shall be responsible for facilitating adherence to this policy. In particular, students who participate in university-sanctioned activities shall,

- 1. In accordance with any academic unit or college requirements, be provided make up assignments, examinations, or other graded coursework that was missed because of the university sanctioned activity without penalty; if this is not possible,
- 2. receive and incomplete, with arrangements made for completing the final coursework and earning a final grade.

The aforementioned assignment makeup sequence shall be utilized unless it can be shown that such an accommodation would constitute an unreasonable burden on the instructor. Should disagreement arise over this process, or what constitutes a burden, the instructor and the student should initially contact the academic unit chair and, failing resolution, go to the dean; or the dean's designee, who shall make the final determination academic advising or the dean's office.

The specific activity program coordinator (e.g., assistant athletics director for academic services, director of forensics, director of bands, faculty advisor, etc.) shall, as early as possible, provide the course instructor with the schedule of any student who may be required to miss class because of a university-sanctioned activity. This may be done either by contacting the instructor directly or providing the student with the information and asking him/her to deliver it to the instructor. Students shall inform their instructors early in the semester of known required class absences, and immediately upon learning of unscheduled required class absences.

Every effort should be made to utilize sequence #1 noted above; incomplete grades (I) should not be used unless deemed necessary by the respective faculty.