

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Academic Senate

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING STATUTORY CHANGES TO REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTHUMOUS DEGREES, WITHDRAWALS, UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATES, AND TRANSFER CREDITS

WHEREAS the current statutory provisions governing posthumous degrees, withdrawals, undergraduate certificates and transfer credits create unreasonable roadblocks to efficient university governance of these processes;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Senate hereby supports the amendments to the Board of Governor statutes set out in the attached proposals, as follows:

1. **Changing the award of degrees to deceased or critically ill students** to permit conferral of degrees, including the award of a degree in commencement ceremonies to critically ill students, upon request from any interested party if at the time of termination of study, the student had met or successfully completed
 - a. 75% of the bachelor's degree requirements (no faculty approval required);
 - b. 75% of the master's degree required credit hours in every published curricular category (support of the student's school/college and department required);
 - c. For students in doctoral programs other than Juris Doctor, Doctor of Medicine, or Doctor of Pharmacy, 75% of the doctoral degree requirements in every published category, [including] preliminary or comprehensive examinations (school/college and department support required);
 - d. For students in Juris Doctor or Doctor of Pharmacy programs, 75% of requirements in each published curricular category; or
 - e. For students in Doctor of Medicine Program, 100% of the pre-clinical basic science requirements and 75% of the published clinical requirements.

2. **Changing the withdrawal policy** to remove the grades of WF, WP, and WN and to designate the grade of W as appropriately given without faculty approval for any student-initiated voluntary withdrawal from a course during the official withdrawal period.

3. **Changing the guidelines for undergraduate certificate programs** to align them with the transfer credit proposal by
 - a. permitting students to transfer credits for up to half of a certificate's credit requirements;
 - b. reducing the minimum number of credits for a certificate from 15 to 12;
 - c. eliminating the requirement that certificate courses be at the 3000-6000 level;
 - d. removing the requirement of prior completion of 60 credit hours with a 2.0 GPA; and
 - e. awarding the certificate at the time earned.

4. **Changing the statute governing transfer credits** to permit students from community colleges or vocational/technical/applied institutes to transfer all academic credit they have earned for courses that are cognates or course equivalents (i.e., when such considerations as comparability and appropriateness of credit are satisfied), including in satisfaction of General Education requirements, with each school/college determining the applicability of particular courses to specific degree requirements and to make other related updates to the statute.