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## 2001-09-21 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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## Executive Committee Minutes - September 21, 2001

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON  
DAYTON, OHIO

### MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

September 21, 2001 – 1:00 p.m. in St. Mary's 113-A

PRESIDING: Betty Youngkin

SENATORS PRESENT: Bartlett, Bartley, Doyle, Dunne, Erdei, Gerla, Hary, Youngkin

1. Opening Prayer: N. Hary asked for a moment of silence and then asked each to read silently Pope John Paul II's audience text about the tragedy in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania.
2. Roll Call: Eight of twelve members were present.
3. Approval of ECAS minutes of September 14, 2001: The minutes were approved as amended.
4. Postponement of presentation of proposed Restructuring of Honors and Scholars Program by S. Dandaneau: Due to personal reasons, S. Dandaneau was unable to attend the meeting.
5. Announcements: R. Huff and S. Johnson, Assistant Deans of Arts and Sciences, have asked to be included in the discussion of students walking through graduation before they have completed the required credits.
6. Committee Reports: H. Gerla, chair for Faculty Affairs Committee, met on Friday, September 21 and set an agenda. They will be discussing 3 items: 1. Human Resource Issues which include updating the stand on health care benefits and (2) maternity leave for faculty members. The committee has asked Kathy Molnar or Beth Jacobs to speak at their next meeting about University policy; 3. Utilizing part-time and full-time non-tenure track faculty. This committee will meet every other Monday at 1:00 p.m. in Humanities Conference Room 470.

Undergraduate Academic Policies Affected by the New +/- Grading System. J. Dunne, chair for the Academic Policies Committee, announced that his committee has formally approved the proposal "Undergraduate Academic Policies Affected by the New +/- Grading System." A copy of the final proposal was handed out at the ECAS meeting. J. Dunne drew attention to the parts of the proposal that were changed from the presentation at the last meeting. Changes were made to the format of the proposal. The Rationale was the same stating how the University would go from the old grading system to the new. The grade of "C-" should be interpreted as referring to grades of "C+ or C or C-". Overall, the specific conclusions should be "(1) In the University Competencies Program, a "C-" should be the lowest grade that indicates competency in competency-designated courses. (2) The retake policy should not be modified – only D's and F's should be eligible for retake. (3) With regard to Option 2 grading, all academic performance in a course earning 'C-' or higher should be converted to 'S'. (4) The transfer credit policy should state that the credit for courses completed at other accredited institutions with grades of 'C-' or higher is eligible for transfer." Notes were added to the proposal. Note 1: "Policies Based on Cumulative GPA" includes three points: (1) specifications of good academic standing; (2) graduation requirements includes a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0; (3) the three levels of graduation honors are defined

based on cumulative GPA. The committee states that "cumulative GPA is a measure of average academic performance for a collection of courses and is not the same type of measure as a grade for one course." It was determined by the committee that these policies are not affected by the new grading system. Note 2 explained "Policies of Individual Academic Units." These are policies that are developed by individual academic units and applied only to specific programs. The committee urges faculty and academic leaders to review their policies to see if the new grading system affects them. The committee submits the motions (1) Students may demonstrate general competency in specified courses by earning a "C-" or better. (2) Option 2 grading should state grades of "C-" or higher should be converted to an S. D's and F's should be converted to NC. (3) The transfer credit policy should identify "C-" or higher as a requirement. S. Bartley along with J. Erdei mentioned that students were concerned about the retake with a C-. This will be on the agenda for the next full Senate meeting. G. Sargent was contacted to request that the Graduate School and Graduate Council develop proposals for any graduate policies affected by the new graduate grading system.

August Graduation and Level 3 Suspension: G. Doyle, Chair of the Academic Policies Committee, stated that T. Westendorf asked registrars from other universities for their policies on walking through the graduation ceremony before completing the required courses and also placement of Level 3 Suspension on the student's transcripts. He has received only one reply from Marquette and this university states that "anyone can walk anytime they want". There was a "no" on placing a Level 3 Suspension on the transcript. Achbach and Durkle were contacted in the Office of Admissions about discipline problems. It was reported that discipline issues very seldom came up. Those incoming students with discipline matters are reviewed individually. Severity of questioned issues would determine acceptance or denial into the University. It was suggested that faculty and students should be asked what they think of this issue. G. Doyle also talked with the Flyer News asking for coverage of the Academic Senate meetings. They said that they were short staffed and had no one to attend the meetings.

7. Upcoming Issues: Restructuring of Honors and Scholars Program: J. Dunne asked if the Senate will have to take action on the Honors and Scholars Program or if the future presentation by S. Dandaneau is informational. An e-mail from F. Pestello stated that the Senate's role would be consultative. The Senate can review and respond to the proposal and S. Dandaneau should consider the reaction in his revisions of his plan. There is one feature in the plan that may require full Senate approval and this is the awarding of an honors degree. It was suggested that the Senators read the proposal very carefully and questions could be directed to S. Dandaneau after he presents his proposal. Concerns now from the committee were the number of students who could get full scholarships, whether there is enough staff to cover the number of students writing theses, and the time frame of approval.

8. Distribution of ECAS Approved Minutes: It was suggested that the ECAS approved minutes be distributed to all Chairs, Program Directors and faculty by e-mail. A reply addendum at the end would be added for replies to the three chairs and the Academic Senate president.

9. The Executive Committee was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jane Rogatto, Office of the Provost