

1-19-2011

Resolution 20110119.1

Faculty Senate

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A Resolution Supporting Graduate Council's approval of "PTE Academic" for graduate admission

From the Faculty Senate Executive Board

The Faculty Senate supports the Graduate Council's approval of the use of the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) for graduate admission with a minimum overall score of 58. The Senate understands that starting in Fall11 or Winter12 admissions will thereby be possible using TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB or PTE.

Resolution 20110119.2

A Resolution Regarding Calendars for Academic Semesters

From the Faculty Senate Executive Board

Eastern Michigan University's theme and primary mission is "Education First". Students receive their university education primarily through regularly scheduled classes.

Eastern Michigan University lists its fall and winter academic terms as being 15 week semesters.

The winter 2011 academic term falls short of a 15 week semester by all except the most liberal interpretation. The following are the scheduled meeting times for the most commonly scheduled 3 credit hour time slots:

M/W meeting 2 times per week: 25 classes + final = 12.5 weeks plus final.

T/R meeting 2 times per week: 26 classes + final = 13 weeks plus final. M meeting 1 time per week: 12 classes + final = 12 weeks plus final. T/W/R meeting 1 time per week: 13 classes + final = 13 weeks plus final.

Thus, the winter 2011 semester falls short of the ideal semester of 14 weeks of class plus a final exam period by between one and two weeks, depending on class meeting time.

To avoid similar shortfalls in the future, be it hereby resolved that:

- 1) The University Calendar Committee should immediately review previously approved future calendars to see if similar problems have been built into upcoming semesters. If possible corrective actions should be sought where shortfalls occur.
- 2) The University Calendar Committee needs to resume the tradition of having proposed calendars reviewed by Faculty Senate (previously Faculty Council) before their submission to the Board of Regents for approval. This practice has not been followed for the past few years.
- 3) The Faculty Senate requests a report back from the University Calendar Committee by no later than March 2011.

E-Grade and F-Grade

On April 15, 2009, the Faculty Council passed the following resolution:

Proposal to Change the E-Grade to an F-Grade

Given the use of the E by Eastern and the fact that an F frequently indicates a failing grade, Donna Bobcean [sic] from Registration presented a proposal at the last meeting to change the E grade to an F grade. The proposal passed (19-0-1).

The university still seems to be issuing E grades, so a status report appears to be in order.

Faculty Senate Resolution

Whereas there are repeated concerns expressed by faculty regarding certain grading policies, be it resolved that

1. EMU change its policy of requiring hard copy submission of a complete Incomplete grade within one year of its occurrence. The faculty want to be able to handle this electronically.
 2. Grade changes caused by a clerical error or the student's advocacy for why the grade should be different should not require the signature of the department head/ director and college dean if the change occurs within the first month of the subsequent semester.
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1. The letter grade that represents failing a course should be changed from E to F.
 2. A faculty member shall be appointed to the committee of the Records and

Registration office that sets grading submission procedures.

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