

Memorandum

Date: September 9, 2019

To: Faculty Senate

From: Dr. Leslie Oakes, Co-Chair, Faculty Senate Policy Committee
Dr. Lora Stone, Co-Chair, Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Re: Request Approval of Revised Policy Drafts
D175 “Undergraduate Student Conduct and Grievance Policy”
D176 “Graduate and Professional Student Conduct and Grievance Policy”

Over the past two and half years, the Faculty Senate Policy Committee has been diligently working on revisions to *Faculty Handbook* policies D175 and D176 to address concerns raised by the Department of Justice pertaining to inconsistencies with the Student Grievance Procedures in the Pathfinder. The discrepancies arose when the Pathfinder Student Grievance Procedures were amended in 2015 and 2016, without notification to/or approval by the Faculty Senate. *Faculty Handbook* Policy D175 “Student Conduct and Grievance Procedures” has been in effect since 1987 and is the primary authority on student grievances. It precedes the Pathfinder Student Grievance Procedures by 30 years. The attached proposed revisions to D175 and D176 address faculty and student concerns while also aligning with the Pathfinder Student Grievance Procedures and OEO Claims Procedures. Therefore, it is critical that these revisions be approved by the Faculty Senate and posted to the *Faculty Handbook* promptly.

The Policy Committee followed an extensive revision process including the appointment of a taskforce, authorized by the Operations Committee. To ensure affected constituencies would be represented, taskforce membership included faculty members, academic administrators, student governance representatives, and the Dean of Students. The taskforce also reached out to OEO and the Compliance Office. The proposed revisions were sent to the campus for review and comment in April 2017. Comments were addressed and the policies were sent for a second review and comment during the Spring semester of 2019. Comments received were appropriately addressed in the attached proposed policy revisions (These recent changes are highlighted in gray on the attached policy drafts). Since the Policy Committee worked extensively with all stakeholders, the proposed drafts went out for campus comment twice, and all comments were appropriately addressed; the Policy Committee requests Faculty Senate approval of the attached proposed policy revisions. Also, attached are a Timeline of Issues Pertaining to Student Grievance Policies, a Memorandum that documents the revision process followed by the Policy Committee, and a Memorandum on comments received during the last comment period and how the concerns were addressed in the attached proposed revisions.

Attached:

8/1/19 Draft D175 “Undergraduate Student Conduct and Grievance Policy”

8/1/19 Draft D176 “Graduate and Professional Student Conduct and Grievance Policy”

Timeline of Issues Pertaining to Student Grievance Policies

Memorandum that documents the revision process followed by the Policy Committee

Memorandum on comments received during the last comment period