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## Article 1: Purpose

These bylaws are established to ensure the transparent, inclusive, and orderly implementation of the Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition Program. The bylaws govern the processes to be used and the decision-making authority for each party involved in the Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition Program.

## Article 2: Criteria and Call for Proposal

### Section 2.01: Criteria and Funding Targets

The Student Senate shall, at the beginning of each spring semester, examine the criteria for each Blugold Commitment funding category. The Academic Affairs Director shall present the following:

- Detailed list of criteria for the current differential tuition cycle
- Funding breakdown for the current differential tuition cycle
- Provost Initiatives, if any, planned for inclusion in the upcoming differential tuition cycle
- A summary of outcomes and results from the projects funded in the previous cycle
- Annual report, if available, from the UW Eau Claire Foundation detailing the amount of possible support.
- Report from the Financial Aid Office on the most recent information concerning financial assistance.

The Student Senate may, with a 2/3 vote, make modifications to the criteria. The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs is expected to support the Student Senate recommendations except for the most compelling reasons. If any such situation should occur in which the Provost feels that he or she cannot support the recommendations, the Provost or members of the Provost's staff shall meet with the Director of Academic Affairs to attempt to come to a solution. The Provost and Vice Chancellor shall, if necessary, address the student senate about his or her concerns. The Student Senate can make modifications based on the recommendations from the Provost and Vice Chancellor and Student Senate Academic Affairs Director. Any changes made to criteria shall have an effect on proposals submitted in the following fall semester. The Chancellor has the final authority under system policy. The Categorical Committees and the Funding Analysis Committee shall make reasonable efforts to align awards with the funding targets that have been established.

### Section 2.01: Establishing Criteria

The Student Senate may establish a list of criteria and expected outcomes for the differential tuition program. These criteria and expected outcomes would serve as guidelines for the categorical committees' rankings and the Funding Analysis Committee's allocation decisions. The Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs are expected to support the Student Senate recommendations except for the most compelling reasons. If any such situation should occur in which the Provost feels that he or she cannot support the recommendations, the Provost or members of the Provost's staff shall meet with the Director of Academic Affairs to attempt to come to a solution.

The Academic Affairs Director, in conjunction with the Academic Affairs Commission, would establish and approve a list of criteria. The list would then be submitted to the Student Senate for approval. The Senate may, with a simple majority, make modifications to the criteria. Senate approval of any established criteria would take place in the spring semester and would apply to the following year's differential tuition funding cycle.

Student Senate should refrain from establishing criteria unless extenuating circumstances develop and pre-established criteria are determined as necessary to accomplish the broader goals of the Blugold Commitment.

## **Section 2.02 Call for Proposals**

At the beginning of the fall semester, the Office of the Provost shall issue a Call for Proposals to all faculty and academic staff. The Provost's office will collect proposals in a manner and timeline of its designation, so as to allow proposals to be prioritized within operational areas.

The Office of the Provost is responsible for designing and managing the proposal forms and the annual Call process. The Provost or his or her designee will consult with the Student Senate Academic Affairs Director on the format of the proposal form before it is sent to faculty and academic staff. The Call for Proposals shall clearly articulate the program array categories and associated criteria approved by the Student Senate the preceding spring semester.

## **Section 2.03 Ongoing Project Proposals**

~~Each ongoing project proposal must include assessment of the project's learning outcomes. Assessment data is expected to provide sufficient evidence of student learning in order for the project to continue to receive funding.~~

## **Section 2.03 Duration of Project Proposals**

All proposals may request to be categorized in one of three funding categories:

- One Year
- Multi-Year
- Base

Proposals requesting either multi-year or base funding are expected to submit a three year budget plan. Multi-year proposals will be granted funding for 3 years and then must re-apply for funding. Multi-year proposal will be subject to annual assessment. Proposals granted base funding will be guaranteed funding for three years, at which time they will also be subject to assessment. The proposals will then either be placed on probationary status or renewed. The full assessment process is detailed in Article 6.

### **Section 2.03.1 Project Proposals with Base Personnel Funding**

Faculty positions shall be committed, as appropriate, incrementally as follows. Proposals requesting positions shall clearly articulate student learning outcomes to be achieved. Selected proposals shall receive a commitment for one-time (non-base) funding for up to the next three years to be used to "backfill" for faculty involved in the project.

When the project seeks renewal, assessment data must be provided that clearly indicates sufficient student learning. If the project is selected for continuation, base funding and FTE positions can be allocated to the program with the explicit expectation that the project continue to demonstrate sufficient student achievement of the student learning outcomes.

Projects receiving base-funded FTE positions ~~must submit continuation proposals every three years complete with assessment data~~ are subject to the same assessment process as all other base-funded proposals. Projects that fail to demonstrate sufficient student achievement are subject to discontinuation. If a project is discontinued, the awarded FTE positions shall be reclaimed by the Blugold Commitment whenever vacancies permit.

## **Section 2.04 Ranking of College Deans and Division Administrators**

The Deans of each college, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and the Assistant Chancellor for Budget and Finance shall rank the proposals from their respective college or division. The division administrators shall provide sufficient feedback to categorical committees including but not limited to feasibility of proposal and potential for student learning. The feedback shall detail the rationale behind the ranking if necessary. **Rankings are to be conducted either through quartiles or straight numerical ranking if quartiles are not feasible.**

## Article 3: Categorical Committees

### Section 3.01 Committees

After the proposals have been ranked by the deans of the colleges or appropriate administrators and organized by the Provost's staff all proposals will be placed into a particular category. The categorical committees will be formed to evaluate proposals in the following program areas:

- Research and Scholarly Activity
- Immersion Experiences
- Internships/Practicum
- ~~Practicum~~
- Learning and Teaching
- Innovative Projects

Each committee ranks all proposals after they have been marked for mission alignment by the Provost and ranked by the appropriate dean of the college.

If the number of proposals in a specific category is deemed to be too large for one committee to effectively review and rank in the given timeframe, another committee of similar structure may be formed under that specific category.

### Section 3.02 Committee Membership

Each committee shall consist of three students, two faculty or academic staff members and at most one administrative representative who will be a non-voting member. Committee members are expected to be at all necessary meetings of the committee. Students should, when possible, be from different colleges. All committee members shall have the following responsibilities:

- Fully comprehend the policies governing differential tuition
- Understand the funding structures and the tentative funding goals for their particular categories
- Be present and an active member of their committee
- Follow the rules and guidelines established in these bylaws and by the Student Senate
- Recuse themselves from discussions of a proposal in the case of a real or perceived conflict of interest
- Maintain a collegial collaborative partnership among students, staff, and administration.

A representative from the Office of the Provost and the Student Senate Academic Affairs Commission shall inform all members of their duties and responsibilities on the categorical committee and shall be available to answer any inquires as they arise.

#### Section 3.02.1 Student Committee Members

Undergraduate students who meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for membership: Student members must be officially enrolled at the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire with a minimum of six credits, and have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0. The Student Senate program assistant shall check all **appointees** applicants before they are interviewed **prior to their appointment** to determine if they are eligible. ~~Student members will be required to apply for membership on~~

~~category committees.~~ The President of the Student body and Academic Affairs Director will appoint student members with the advice and consent of the Student Senate. The term for appointment for all members is one year.

There shall be a minimum of one student senate member on each categorical committee.

### **Section 3.02.2 Faculty and Staff Committee Members**

The Provost shall appoint two members of the faculty and/or academic staff to each categorical committee. The Provost may also appoint staff to the Funding Analysis Committee as necessary.

### **Section 3.03 Committee Chair**

Each Categorical Committee shall internally appoint a chair who has the following responsibilities:

- Prepare meeting agendas and minutes
- Establish meeting times in which all committee members will be present
- Keep an active record of ranking of each proposal, and provide the list to the Funding Analysis Committee
- Keep a detailed list of proposals or departments which are on provisional status
- ~~If needed serve on the Funding Analysis Committee, or appoint a designee to fulfill this role.~~

### **Section 3.04 Procedures**

If in the discussion of the ranking of specific proposals, it becomes necessary to take an issue to vote, a vote shall be called. Majority vote shall carry. The committee chair shall keep a record of all voting and motions made.

During each categorical committee, the committee chair ~~may~~ **must** submit in writing rationale behind the committee's decision in ranking of a particular proposal. These supplemental materials shall be included with the ranking recommendation of the committee as well as the college dean's recommendation and ranking.

### **Section 3.05 Provisional Status**

~~Each Categorical Committee may recommend to the Funding Analysis Committee that any ongoing project be placed into provisional status. If supported by the Funding Analysis Committee, the project shall be placed into provisional status.~~

~~When a project is placed into provisional status, the Funding Analysis Committee shall establish a timeline and criteria for removal of the provisional status. A project on provisional status after the set timeline shall not be funded in the immediately succeeding Blugold Commitment Differential Tuition cycle.~~

A project on provisional status must submit evidence during the succeeding Blugold Commitment cycle as to its progress toward satisfaction of its criteria for removal of provisional status. Upon receiving the evidence, a Categorical Committee may recommend continued provisional status or removal from provisional status. Provisional status may only be removed by the Funding Analysis Committee with the advice and consent of the Student Senate. Student Senate may also modify programs on the provisional status list.

## **Article 4 Funding Analysis Committee**

### **Section 4.01 Committee**

The Funding Analysis Committee determines the allocation of funding to the proposals within the program array approved by the Student Senate. The committee shall take the input and feedback from the college deans and the categorical committees when making funding decisions on proposals.

### **Section 4.02 Membership**

The Funding Analysis Committee shall include up to four student representatives (including the Academic Affairs Director) and four representatives from the Office of the Provost. All committee members shall have the following responsibilities:

- Fully comprehend the policies that govern differential tuition
- Understand the funding structures and the program array and associated target funding levels as approved by Student Senate.
- Be present and an active member of the committee
- Follow the rules and guidelines established in these bylaws and by the Student Senate
- Recuse themselves from discussions of a proposal in the case of a real or perceived conflict of interest
- Maintain a collegial collaborative partnership among students, staff, and administration.

A representative from the Office of the Provost and the Student Senate Academic Affairs Commission shall inform all members of their duties and responsibilities on the Committee.

Preference shall be given to student senators and directors when considering appointments.

#### **Section 4.02.1 Student Committee Members**

The Academic Affairs Director will appoint student members with the advice and consent of the Student Senate. The term for appointment for all members is one year.

#### **~~Section 4.02.2 Non-Student Senate Committee Members~~**

~~The President of the Student body will appoint non-Student Senate members with the advice and consent of the Student Senate. The term for appointment for all non student senate members is one year.~~

### **Section 4.03 Procedures**

In the case of a split vote on the Funding Analysis Committee, the chair may move the agenda to other business to avoid a stalemate. For funding of any proposal, a majority vote must occur. In the case of a split vote, negotiations should occur to allow progress on the allocation. The Provost or his or her designee, as chair, may not cast a tie-breaking vote beyond their original vote.

## Section 4.04 Provost Initiatives

Based on the Centennial Plan, historical evidence, and the mission of the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire, the Provost shall develop and implement Provost Initiatives each differential tuition budget cycle. Provost Initiatives shall be limited to the following:

- Implementing prototypes for a revised General Education program
- Improved freshmen and transfer student advising
- Course availability

The Provost's Office shall present to the Student Senate a detailed description of these Provost Initiatives, complete with departmental participation and proposed budgetary information. Prior to the presentation of the Provost Initiatives to the Student Senate, the Provost shall vet the proposals with the Student Body President, Student Body Vice President, and Student Senate Academic Affairs Commission Director. Provost Initiatives shall not exceed 25% of the total programmatic funding for any given tuition cycle without a ~~2/3~~ simple majority roll call bill by Student Senate.

### Section 4.04.1 Procedures

The Provost Initiatives shall be submitted to the ~~categorical committees for comment~~. The Provost Initiatives and comments shall then be forwarded to the Funding Analysis Committee for consideration.

## Article 5 Student Senate Oversight

### Section 5.01 Overview

At the conclusion of the Funding Analysis Committee, the Academic Affairs Director shall submit a bill for Student Senate's consideration containing a list of funded proposals, the amount requested by the proposal author, the amount granted by the Funding Analysis Committee and any other relevant or requested information. In addition, the bill shall outline the items on the provisional status list and details if applicable about those specific proposals. ~~Lastly, the bill shall show if the funding levels met the funding targets set at the previous spring semester. If in any circumstance the actual funding did not meet the funding target, a rationale must be given to Student Senate.~~ The bill before Senate shall be approved by ~~2/3~~ simple majority vote.

The Bill presented to Student Senate must include the following:

- List of proposals funded, amounts requested and amounts rewarded by the FAC
- Funding plan, including total available funds, total amount spent and expected carry-over
- Funding plan for the Provost Initiatives
- Amount allocated to financial aid
- Report detailing expected coverage of the proposed financial aid amount

~~Student Senate has the authority to remove Provisional Status with a 2/3 vote. Modifications to the provisional status list shall take effect the next differential tuition cycle.~~