Brief History of Issue - why the issue is being considered:

The associate Deans and Associate Directors from Academic Affairs are recommending a change in the policy regarding academic suspension so that all academic suspensions are for the period of one semester. This move would give the associate deans the ability to consider a request for readmission to UW-Eau Claire on a case by case basis without the need for students to file special appeals of a more lengthy academic suspension (currently one year for a second academic suspension). The current appeal process requires more work for everyone including the students, has to be hand coded by the registrar’s office and is seen as being a disadvantage to students that are less capable of "gaming" the system. The proposed change in policy with regards to suspensions also gives the associate deans for each college more flexibility in making the right decisions for individual students.

Points Discussed by Committee:

1. This is not an attempt by the associate deans to allow students with a low-probability of success at UWEC to rematriculate. UW-Eau Claire is not going to allow students that have not corrected the problems that led to an academic suspension (financial, health etc.) to be readmitted.
2. The proposed language levels the playing field for all students instead of favoring students that are simply better at navigating the administrative hurdles for readmission (savvy students know all about the appeals process).
3. The proposed language is easier to administer for all parties including the registrar’s office. A uniform suspension policy does not require hand-coding.
4. A one year or longer suspension is more likely to have students self-select out of UW-Eau Claire even though they may have a high probability of being successful if they can overcome the difficulties that resulted in an initial suspension.
5. Suspension policies are not at all consistent across the UWS so UW-Eau Claire is not outside of some well-established UWS policy with the proposed change.

Pros of Recommendation:

1. Easier for administration including registrar’s office
2. Allows more flexibility in making the right decision for individual students
3. Has less impact on students that might be successful on subsequent attempts at completing a degree at UW-Eau Claire.

Cons of Recommendation:

None

Technology/Human Resource Impact:

This proposal actually makes it easier to code for a suspension.

Committee Recommendation:

Changing the academic suspension policy so that all academic suspensions are for the period of one semester.
The University Senate Committee: Academic Policies Committee

by a vote of ___7___ for to ___0___ against on ___November 15, 2016___ (Date)

Recommends that the following text replaces the text in the current 2016-2017 Undergraduate Catalog: Academic Standing and Forgiveness regarding academic suspension.

Suspension. A student will be suspended from the University under either or both of the following conditions:
1. At the end of a semester of probation, the student has failed to regain good academic standing.
2. At the end of any semester, the student has a semester GPA of less than 1.00. (This regulation applies regardless of the student’s resident GPA.)

A student who has been suspended is ineligible to continue in the University for a specified period of time. A first suspension is for the period of one semester. Any degree-seeking student who wishes to return to the University after the expiration of the suspension must make formal application for readmittance through the Admissions Office. Special Students who wish to return to the University after the expiration of a suspension may register through Blugold Central. Readmittance cannot be guaranteed. If the student is readmitted and fails to regain good academic standing by the end of the first semester after readmittance, a second suspension of one semester will be incurred. The second suspension is for a period of one year.

A student who has been suspended for academic reasons may request a review by a faculty committee of the College in which the student was enrolled. If the student can show that extenuating circumstances existed, the committee may recommend to the Associate Dean of the College that the student be reinstated.

Students on suspension may attend the UW-Eau Claire Winterim and Summer Sessions (including the Three-Week Summer Session) for the purpose of improving their academic records and may request an appeal of the suspension from the Associate Dean of the College at the conclusion of the session. A suspended student may not enroll as a special student at UW-Eau Claire during the fall or spring semesters until the suspension has expired. A student suspended from UW-Eau Claire may encounter difficulty in attempting to enroll at another institution.

Implementation Date: 17/18 Undergraduate Catalog

Signed: ____________________________________________

Chair of the Committee

Send to: University Senate Office