TO: Marquell Johnson, Chair  
Academic Policies Committee

FROM: Academic Associate Deans

DATE: May 2, 2019

RE: Graduation with Distinction

We request implementation of the following change to the University’s policy on Graduation with Distinction for students graduating with an associate degree with the next possible Catalog. This policy change was agreed to by the Associate Deans at their May 1, 2019, meeting.

From Current Catalog Web Page: http://catalog.uwec.edu/undergraduate/graduation-requirements/#graduationtext

Graduation with Distinction
Graduation with distinction is conferred at commencement exercises upon eligible students earning a first or second baccalaureate degree. Eligibility is based on both the resident and the total GPAs as defined under Grade Point Requirements. A student must earn in both computations (resident and total GPAs) the minimum GPA required at each of the three levels of distinction listed below and a minimum of 30 credits in residence to be eligible:

Summa Cum Laude at least 3.80  
Magna Cum Laude at least 3.50  
Cum Laude at least 3.20

To:

Graduation with Distinction
Graduation with distinction is conferred at commencement exercises upon eligible students earning a first or second baccalaureate or associate degree. Eligibility is based on both the resident and the total GPAs as defined under Grade Point Requirements. A student must earn in both computations (resident and total GPAs) the minimum GPA required at each of the three levels of distinction listed below and a minimum of 30 credits in residence to be eligible:

Summa Cum Laude at least 3.80  
Magna Cum Laude at least 3.50  
Cum Laude at least 3.20

Why:

UW Colleges have offered graduating students with associate degrees cum laude distinction. They have asked if UW-Eau Claire would be willing to extend this distinction beginning with fall 2019 graduates. The Associate Deans agreed that adding “or associate” to the policy is acceptable.

MG/an