

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dr. Ana Borger-Greco  
Faculty Senate Chairperson

FROM: Vilas A. Prabhu  
Provost and Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

DATE: December 3, 2007

SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF FACULTY SENATE CURRICULAR RECOMMENDATIONS

As the President's designee, I am informing you of the approvals of the following Faculty Senate Curricular Actions.

### **Faculty Senate actions at March 20, 2007, meeting:**

#### **Academic Undergraduate Policy:**

##### **Graduation Honors For A Baccalaureate Degree**

##### **Current Policy:**

Students who have earned consistently superior grades in their course work are recognized for their achievements at graduation with the designation of graduation honors. The student's diploma and University record carry the appropriate honors designation:

Cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.35 and 3.64  
magna cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.65 and 3.94  
summa cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.95 and 4.00

Graduation Honors for students with transfer Credits. Millersville credits and grade points are combined with accepted transfer credits and grade points when determining graduation honors. Eligibility for graduation with honors is calculated based on the combined grade point average (CGPA) of all MU and transfer grades posted to the academic record. In-progress courses are not used in the calculation of the honors CGPA.

Changes in the eligibility for, or the level of, honors following the posting of grades for the final semester at MU will be reflected on the student's diploma and MU transcript.

To qualify for graduation honors, students must:

1. Earn an honors average (minimum 3.35) in work done at Millersville, and;
2. Complete at least 30 credits with grades A through D- at Millersville, and;
3. Earn a combined honors average of at least 3.35 in all work done at Millersville and in accepted transfer credit courses.

Graduation Honors for Candidates for a second Baccalaureate Degree. To qualify for graduation honors, second degree students must earn an honors average in work in the second degree program. The entire previous academic record is combined with second degree credits and grade points when determining graduation honors.

Graduation Honors for Associate's Degree Candidates. To qualify for the designation "with honors" on their diploma and University record, associate degree candidates must:

1. Earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher in work done at Millersville, and;
2. Complete at least 30 credits with grades A through D- at Millersville.

**Revised Policy:**

Students who have earned consistently superior grades in their course work at Millersville University are recognized for their achievements at graduation with the designation of graduation honors. The student's diploma and University record carry the appropriate honors designation:

Cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.50 and 3.74  
Magna cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.75 and 3.94  
Summa cum laude for a cumulative GPA between 3.95 and 4.00

Eligibility for graduation with honors is determined based on the Millersville grade point average. Neither transfer work nor in-progress courses are included in the honors GPA. For students who have been awarded academic amnesty, the pre-amnesty work is not included in calculating the honors GPA.

Changes in the eligibility for, or the level of, honors following the posting of grades for the final semester at MU will be reflected on the student's diploma and MU transcript.

To qualify for graduation honors, students must:

1. Earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher in work done at Millersville, and;
2. Complete at least 60 credits of Millersville course work.

Students who are completing a second baccalaureate degree at Millersville are not eligible for graduation honors.

Graduation Honors for Associate's Degree Candidates. To qualify for the designation "with honors" on their diploma and University record, associate degree candidates must:

1. Earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher in work done at Millersville, and;
2. Complete at least 30 credits with grades A through D- of Millersville course work.

**Approved, effective students entering fall 2007**

In order to preserve the integrity and consistency of the Latin Honors categories (*cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, and *summa cum laude*) at each graduation ceremony, the criteria for determining eligibility for graduation honors will be based on a student's graduation date, rather than the student's date of admission to Millersville. The new policy presented above will be fully implemented for students graduating in December 2009. For students graduating between December 2007 and Summer 2009, an interim plan has been developed based on the previous policy for determining graduation honors; the only change concerns whether transfer credits are included in calculating the Honors GPA. Transfer credits and grades will be included in calculating an Honors GPA only if doing so will elevate the student to a higher honors level (e.g. from *cum laude* to *magna cum laude*).

## **Academic Undergraduate Policy:**

### **Academic Amnesty**

#### **Current Policy:**

Former Millersville University students applying for readmission following a minimum absence of five years since the end of their last semester are eligible to petition for academic amnesty if their cumulative grade point average (CGPA) was below 2.0 at departure. The petition must be in the form of a letter of appeal to the Academic Standards Committee, sent in care of the registrar's office.

In order to be eligible to petition for academic amnesty, the former student must complete an application for readmission to undergraduate degree status. If academic amnesty is granted, the calculation of the CGPA is restarted with the new matriculation semester.

Under academic amnesty, all previous course work and grades remain on the permanent record but are not included in the calculation of the MU CGPA after amnesty is granted. Students may use courses taken in the preamnesty period to fulfill general education requirements, only if a grade of C- or higher was earned in the course. Graduation with honors will be determined on the basis of a minimum post-amnesty CGPA of 3.35, after which all transfer work and preamnesty MU course work with grades of C- or better will be included to determine honors eligibility.

**NOTE: Due to the policy revisions for Graduation/Latin Honors, the Academic Amnesty policy will need to reflect the changes in the Latin Honors policy.**

### **Academic Amnesty**

#### **Revised Policy:**

Former Millersville University students applying for readmission following a minimum absence of five years since the end of their last semester are eligible to petition for academic amnesty if their cumulative grade point average (CGPA) was below 2.0 at departure. The petition must be in the form of a letter of appeal to the Academic Standards Committee, sent in care of the registrar's office.

In order to be eligible to petition for academic amnesty, the former student must complete an application for readmission to undergraduate degree status. If academic amnesty is granted, the calculation of the CGPA is restarted with the new matriculation semester.

Under academic amnesty, all previous course work and grades remain on the permanent record but are not included in the calculation of the MU CGPA after amnesty is granted. Students may use courses taken in the pre-amnesty period to fulfill general education requirements, only if a grade of C- or higher was earned in the course.

**Approved, effective fall 2007**