**Committee Name:** Admissions and Academic Policies Committee (AAPC)

**Chair:**  Kristi Robinia

**Subject:**  AAPC Annual Report to the Academic Senate 2013-2014

**Members:** Kristi Robinia (Chair), Krista Clumpner (Secretary), Michael Crum, Gerri Daniels, Jim Gadzinski, Christine Greer, Jeanne Lorentzen, Mike Martin (Chair-Elect), Gary McDonnell, Kim Rotundo, Laura Soldner, Paul Truckey, Ruth Watry.

Non-voting member: Lenette Pynnonen (Proficiency Officer)

AAPC met three times during Fall 2013 (10/4; 11/8; 12/6) and thus far, three times during Winter 2014 (1/31; 2/21/ 3/21). AAPC will have a final meeting for the semester on 4/25. Subcommittees for processing emergency appeals between semesters met five times during the summer 2013 and twice during winter break 2013-2014.

**Academic Appeals**

A major part of the committee’s activity is to hear appeals by students, who have been suspended or dismissed from NMU, for readmission. The committee as a whole (or designated members during breaks) hears and considers each appeal. The Dean of Students is available for emergency appeals and submits a report to the committee on those actions. The totals for the appeals hearings so far in this academic year were:

Summer Break 2013: Appeals Granted

Summer Break: May 15- Aug 30              67 Appeals          31 Granted

Fall 2013: Sept 1- Dec 30                         15 Appeals            9 Granted

Winter Break (January 7)                          46 Appeals          11 Granted

Winter 2014 (March 21)                              5 Appeals             4 Granted

Winter 2014 (April 25th) As of this writing 4 are pending

**Academic and Admission Policy Considerations:** AAPC forwarded five recommended motions to the Senate during the 2013-2014 academic year.

**Fall 2013**

1. **Change in Associate Degree Requirements**

The committee voted to recommend a proposal from the registrar’s office to increase semester credit hour requirements for Associate programs from 12 to a minimum of 15 semester hours in order to meet Higher Learning Commission Criteria for accreditation. According to the Higher Learning Commission Criteria for Accreditation, all Associate of Applied Science degrees and their equivalent must maintain a minimum of 15 semester credits through a traditional general education course or through an embedded course equivalent to the traditional model. Although all programs that needed to, had made the required adjustments to meet this new standard; bulletin language needed to reflect these changes.

Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained on 11-19-14. Effective: Fall 2014

**2. Increasing Standards for Honors**

The committee voted to recommend a change the GPA requirements for Honors to the following:

**Graduation Honors GPA requirements**

Cum Laude 3.5 - 3.74 (Currently 3.30- 3.59)

Magna Cum Laude 3.75 - 3.89 (Currently 3.60 - 3.79)

Summa Cum Laude 3.9 - 4.0 (Currently 3.80 - 4.0)

**Dean’s List GPA Requirements**

Deans List criteria 3.5 (Currently 3.25)

Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained on 2-4-14. New Deans List Criteria will be effective for Fall 2015; all other honor’s criteria will be effective for Fall 2016.

**Winter 2014**

**1. Teacher Education Selection and Retention Standards**

The committee voted to approve the proposal from the School of Education, Leadership and Public Servicethat requests changes in admission criteria into the pre-methods phase of teacher education, increases standards for admission into the methods phase of teacher education, and increases standards for retention in the program. The most significant change is to require initial admittance to the program based on a nationally normed admissions assessment (the ACT, SAT, or Pre-professional Skills test).

Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained on 3-25-14. Standards will be in effect for Fall 2014.

**2. English Language Proficiency Standards**

The committee voted to approve the proposal from the Director of International Programs (Kevin Timlin) for changes to theEnglish Language Proficiency Admission Policy for admittance into NMU undergraduate and graduate programs. The proposal offered more extensive language that outlined specific “other” ways international students can prove adequate levels of English language proficiency. The list of “other” ways was gleaned from discussion with Admissions regarding past practice at NMU, and review of admission standards at peer institutions.

With this proposal, students seeking undergraduate admission could also provide evidence through diploma’s from appropriate high schools, scores of 500 or better on the SAT critical reading AND writing sections; a score of 21 or better on ACT combined English/Writing, successful completion of 12 or more college-level semester credit hours from another U.S. institution of higher learning (at a GPA of 2.0 or higher), and/or successful completion of level 112 in the ELS language school. Students seeking graduate admission could provide proof through the aforementioned tests, a bachelor’s degree from a U.S. institution or institution from a country where English is the official language, a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on 24 or more undergraduate or graduate level credit hours from a U.S. institution, and/or successful completion of Level 112 in the ELS language school.

Senate approval for this recommendation was obtained on 3-25-14. Standards will be in effect for Fall 2014.

**3. Online Course Preparations Requirements**

The committee voted to approve the proposal from theAQIP Distance Delivery Action Project (prepared by Academic Information Services) requiring students who register for an online course to complete a self-paced, online tutorial module, within the past five academic years, prior to accessing NMU’s Learning Management System. The online tutorial module would include information about the general expectations and logistics of an online course and provide instruction on using the NMU’s Learning Management System (e.g., navigating a course home page, submitting assignments and quizzes, participating in discussion forums and other activities, and accessing resources).

Senate First reading 4-8-14; Second reading 4-22-14.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi Robinia

AAPC Chair 2013-2014