THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number SD0621F Date of Senate Approval 11/04/2021

Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

APC Document 5:

Revise the Conditional Readmission Policy

Effective Date: Fall 2022

1. **Delete:** On page 8, the entry for the **Conditional Readmission Policy:**

The Conditional Readmission Policy gives students who would otherwise be unable to complete their baccalaureate degree for academic reasons the opportunity to prove themselves.

Degree-seeking students who left UNC Asheville in poor academic standing (grade-point average below 2.0) may apply for readmission to the university under this policy. To be considered for this policy, the student must not have attended UNC Asheville for a minimum of three years, and must show evidence that the reasons for the initial failure at UNC Asheville are no longer present. The Enrollment Services Committee will review all Conditional Readmission applicants.

A student approved to return under the policy is readmitted on a probationary basis, and must then complete 24 semester hours. Academic performance is reviewed by the Enrollment Services Committee at the completion of the 24 semester hours. If the standards established by the Committee have been met, the student is fully readmitted to UNC Asheville.

Academic work attempted prior to acceptance under the Conditional Readmission Policy is reviewed at this point, and only the credit hours (not grades) associated with courses in which the student earned a grade of C or better are applied to the degree program. Neither the hours, nor the grades for courses in which a student earned a C-, D, F or U are applied toward graduation. Required courses in which a student earned a grade below a C must be repeated.

A student's academic transcript contains all attempted courses and grades earned at UNC Asheville; however, when a student is readmitted under the Conditional Readmission Policy, the grades in courses completed prior to the semester in which the student initially applied for readmission under the policy are not factored into the overall grade-point average, although they remain on the transcript. The transcript also reflects the student's admission to the program.

Students who are readmitted to UNC Asheville under this policy are not eligible for universitywide honors and cannot utilize the C–, D, F and U grade replacement policy. Once accepted into the Conditional Readmission program, students may not request to be removed from the program. Students may apply for Conditional Readmission one time.

Add: On page 8, in place of deleted entry:

The Conditional Readmission Policy gives students who would otherwise be unable to complete their baccalaureate degree for academic reasons the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to succeed and graduate.

Degree-seeking students who left UNC Asheville in poor academic standing (grade-point average below 2.0) may apply for readmission to the university under this policy. Under very rare circumstances, a student who could graduate without utilizing this forgiveness policy may also be considered for admission to the program. To be considered for the policy, the

student must not have attended UNC Asheville for a minimum of three years, and must show evidence that the reasons for the initial lack of success at UNC Asheville are no longer present. The Enrollment Services Committee will review all Conditional Readmission applicants.

A student approved to return under the policy is readmitted on a probationary basis, and must then complete 24 semester hours. Academic performance is reviewed by the Enrollment Services Committee at the completion of the 24 semester hours. If the standards established by the Committee have been met, the student is fully readmitted to UNC Asheville.

Academic work attempted prior to acceptance under the Conditional Readmission Policy is reviewed at this point, and the credit hours and grades associated with courses in which the student earned a grade of C or better are applied to the degree program. Neither the hours, nor the grades for courses in which a student earned a C–, D, F or U are applied toward graduation. Required courses in which a student earned a grade of C- or below must be repeated.

A student's academic transcript contains all attempted courses and grades earned at UNC Asheville; however, when a student is readmitted under the Conditional Readmission Policy, grades of C- or lower earned prior to the semester in which the student initially applied for readmission under the policy are not factored into the overall grade-point average, although they remain on the transcript. Grades of C or higher will factor into the overall grade-point average. The transcript will also reflect the student's admission to the program.

Students who are readmitted to UNC Asheville under this policy are not eligible for universitywide honors and cannot utilize the C–, D, F and U grade replacement policy. Once accepted into the Conditional Readmission program, students may not request to be removed from the program. Students may apply for Conditional Readmission one time.

Impact: There are few students (approximately 30 in 30 years) who have been readmitted under this policy, so this won't impact a significant number of students. The main impact is that by including grades of C or higher, the grade-point-average will better reflect the student's complete academic performance, and it is then incumbent on the student to maintain the 2.0 in order to graduate.

Rationale: When the policy was put in place, the approved student was treated as if they were a transfer student (grades don't transfer), and all grades prior to approval were excluded from the GPA calculations. Since students are required to have at least a 2.0 GPA for both major and overall, it is better practice to only exclude the grades of C- or lower, as if the student is using an unlimited number of grade replacements. It also seems counterintuitive to remove an A, B, or even a C from contributing to the GPA. These grades could help offset a lower grade, if needed.

On occasion, students who could have otherwise graduated have been allowed to utilize this policy, so a statement to that effect is being added. For example, a student returned after an absence of seven years to complete the requirements to be licensed to teach. The student could have repeated some classes and ultimately graduated, but the previous major field was no longer what they wanted to do, and it would have been impossible for them to raise their graduation GPA to the 2.7 required to be formally admitted to the licensure program. Once accepted into the program, they have maintained a very high GPA and will graduate and be licensed to teach. If the proposed changes to retain grades of C or higher were in place for this student, they would still have the GPA required for licensure.

However, it is stressed that the main purpose of the Conditional Readmission Policy is to allow students to graduate who might otherwise be unable to do so. It is not intended to be used for students who want to raise their GPA for purposes such as admission to graduate school.