

## **Revision of B.O.G. Statute 2.43.61.050**

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the revision of statute section 2.43.61.050 to amend the criteria for Graduation with Distinction, effective immediately.

### **Policy Description**

#### 2.43.61 Graduation with Distinction

Proposed revision to section 2.43.61.050:

2.43.61.050 The criteria for Graduation with Distinction include:

(a) A minimum of 56 credits in residence at Wayne State University. Under exceptional circumstances, the President or his/her designee may grant an exception to the residency provision.

(b) Minimum honor point average (as established above) on all work at Wayne State University completed by the end of the term of graduation. (For notation in the Commencement Program, the honor point average on all work completed prior to the term of graduation will be used.)

#### Current statute language

#### 2.43.61 Graduation with Distinction

2.43.61.050 The criteria for Graduation with Distinction include:

(a) A minimum of 60 credits in residence at Wayne State University. Under exceptional circumstances, the President or his/her designee may grant an exception to the residency provision.

(b) Minimum honor point average (as established above) on all work at Wayne State University completed by the end of the term of graduation. (For notation in the Commencement Program, the honor point average on all work completed prior to the term of graduation will be used.)

### **Background**

In June 1986, the Board of Governors adopted the statute on Graduation with Distinction for students completing the baccalaureate degree. The proposed language will alter the minimum number of 60 credits in residence to 56 credits in residence (see Appendix for the current statute language).

At each graduation the University recognizes the top 20% of the undergraduate students in each college who have earned the highest GPA. The honor point average cut-offs for each college are established for the subsequent year based on the GPA distributions of the previous year's senior

class.

Community College students can transfer in to WSU up to 64 credits, leaving some students 4 credits shy of the currently required 60 credits needed for graduation with distinction. A change in the minimum number of credits in residence from 60 to 56 required for graduation with distinction would allow those community college students transferring in 64 credits and graduating with 120 credits (the minimum number of credits needed to graduate from WSU) to be eligible to graduate with distinction, assuming their final Wayne State University cumulative GPA falls within the top 20% of graduates in one of the colleges.

### **Approvals**

The revisions have been approved by the Council of Deans, the Policy Committee of Academic Senate, and the Office of the Provost.