

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Student Affairs Committee
Kathy Pollock, Chair

DATE: October 24, 2011

SUBJECT: Grief Absence Policy for Students

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee requested that the Student Affairs Committee consider for endorsement the Purdue Grief Absence Policy for Students; and

WHEREAS, we as a faculty recognize the importance of giving our students time to grieve the loss of loved ones; and

WHEREAS, that recognition is reflected in the current practices of our faculty as exercised in the context of their right to determine attendance policies for their own classes; and

WHEREAS, our current practices appear to be serving our students well; and

WHEREAS, the recommended policy contradicts and diminishes the manner in which IPFW interacts with its students; and

WHEREAS, the governance documents describing the management relationship between Purdue West Lafayette and IPFW reserve control of undergraduate curricular and student conduct policies to IPFW;

THEREFORE, we reaffirm the existing policy of faculty autonomy and discretion in this matter and reject the suggested GAPS policy from Purdue West Lafayette.