May 18, 2014

To: Matthew Platz, UHH Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs

From: Michael Shintaku, Faculty Congress Chair

Subject: Motion: Modifications to Academic Policy Flow Chart.

At its April 24, 2014 meeting, the UH-Hilo Faculty Congress passed a motion requiring administrative action: to accept modifications to the Academic Policy Flow Chart. The vote was 12-0-1. The flow chart, with modifications indicated, is attached.

MOTION: Recommendation to accept the modifications to the Academic Policy Flow Chart as presented to Faculty Congress.

We appreciate your attention to this matter, and look forward to a response at one of our upcoming Faculty Congress Meetings.
Notes to accompany the Academic Policy Proposal Flow Chart

This process is intended to govern the proposal and approval of new or modified academic policies.

Academic policy proposals may originate at any level of the campus community.

When the need is apparent, or when directed to do so by decision-making authorities, persons proposing new or amended policies are responsible for seeking consultation with appropriate university staff members, to ensure compliance with law, government and system policies, and other regulations. Proposals may be returned for further consultation at any point in the process.

Certification of consultation must be provided by the consulted staff member or members and forwarded with the proposal.

Footnote references from the flow chart:

1. For the purposes of this document, Dean(s) includes Deans, the University Librarian, and the Director of Ka Haka 'Ula O Ke'elikōlani, the College of Hawaiian Language.

2. For the purposes of this document, the word "Unit" in the phrase "Unit Governance Entities" includes, but is not limited to, the Colleges and the Library.

3. Representatives of Faculty Congress and Graduate Council are responsible for seeking consultation with appropriate Faculty and Staff members within their respective units on the potential implications of new or amended policies. Faculty Congress will appoint a member as “liaison to Graduate Council” to communicate between the two representative bodies.

4. Referrals for proposal revision from Faculty Congress and Graduate Council are sent to proposal originator.

5. Referrals for proposal revision from the VCAA may be sent to either Faculty Congress or Graduate Council, depending on the scope and potential implications of the proposed policy.

6. There is a time-limit between receiving and voting/deciding on a proposal. For Faculty Congress, the time-limit is two months. For Graduate Council and VCAA this is one month. If time-limit is not met, the proposal shall automatically be advanced to the next recipient without recommendation.

Note that the University administration is responsible for:

• Developing forms and documentation consistent with these procedures;

• Arranging for a system to track policy proposals as they move through the process, and arranging for training of users;

• Specifying procedures to notify submitters, reviewers, and other appropriate participants of the progress and final status of proposals, using a combination of web-posting, email, hardcopy distribution, etc., as appropriate;

• Codifying long-standing policies and procedures and posting them on the academic policies webpage; and

• Ensuring that other campus shared governance constitutions and by-laws are consistent with these established processes.