

**Western Michigan University**

**Bronson School of Nursing Policy Statements**

*Accepted by BSON Faculty 01/16/07*

*Approved on January 19, 2007 by the  
WMU-AAUP Contract Administrator & the  
Director of Academic Collective Bargaining*

**Western Michigan University  
Bronson School of Nursing**

**Article I**

*It is the right, the responsibility, and the privilege of University faculties to participate in the governance of their departments. Fundamentally, what is desirable and intended by the Department Policy Statement is to ensure meaningful participation by department faculties and procedural regularity within the departments. It is understood that the ultimate power of decision-making resides with the administration. This Policy Statement is one means by which the faculty of this department make recommendations to Western.*

**Preamble**

Professionals are vitally interested in conditions attendant to their positions; they possess the right to participate in decisions by making recommendations which affect them in execution of their professional responsibilities. \*Faculty/Faculty Specialists (FS) participation is imperative to create decisions that affect academic programs, mission outcomes and faculty/FS productivity. Moreover, the sense of commitment that results from faculty/FS participation is a precondition of continued professionalization and enables the Bronson School of Nursing, the College of Health and Human Services, and the University to utilize the knowledge, skills, beliefs, and experiences of each faculty/FS member and to encourage creativity and productivity.

\*Refer to Article 20 of WMU-AAUP Agreement.

Accordingly, the purpose of the School Policy Statement is to set forth the policies, the structure and the operating procedures of the Western Michigan University Bronson School of Nursing. The School Policy Statement is prepared, revised, and shall operate in accordance with the current Agreement between Western Michigan University and the WMU-AAUP chapter.

## **Article II**

### **I. Amending the School Policy Statement**

- A. General. The School Policy Statement, in whole or in part, may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the faculty/FS at a scheduled bargaining unit meeting.
- B. Recommended amendments. Recommended amendments in the School Policy Statement shall be submitted to faculty/FS for consideration according to the following procedures:
  - 1. A written request may be submitted by any standing committee of the Bronson School of Nursing to the Faculty Affairs Chair.
  - 2. Such a written request should state:
    - a. the current policy
    - b. the proposed amendments in the policy
    - c. the rationale and need(s) for such an amendment(s)
  - 3. Requests for amendment(s) shall be circulated to faculty/FS by the Faculty Affairs Chair a minimum of five working days prior to the scheduled bargaining unit meeting at which the proposed amendment(s) shall be discussed.
  - 4. Faculty/FS will vote on the proposed amendments during a scheduled bargaining unit meeting.
  - 5. Amendments that have been ratified by the faculty/FS shall be submitted in writing to the Director by the Faculty Affairs Chair.

6. Procedures for submitting the recommended amendments shall conform with the procedures specified in the WMU-AAUP Agreement. (Refer to Article 23.3, 23.4, and 23.5)
7. As soon as a policy becomes effective, the chair of the committee which initiated the amendment will disseminate a written copy of the policy that articulates the change to the Director and the faculty/FS and/or students.

## **Article III**

### **I. Bronson School of Nursing Operations**

#### **A. Faculty/FS**

##### **1. Membership and Voting Rights**

- a. All individuals who hold academic rank in the School have a contractual responsibility to participate in faculty/FS deliberations. All board appointed unit faculty and FS of the School, with the exception of adjuncts, have voting rights.
- b. Decision Process in Faculty/FS meetings
  - i. decisions will be made by a two-thirds vote of the eligible voting members present.
  - ii. a quorum will be two-thirds of the voting faculty/FS.
  - iii. voting by proxy is not allowed.
  - iv. Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the faculty/FS in all parliamentary situations that are not provided for in the law, policy statements, or adopted rules.

#### **B. Meetings**

##### **1. Faculty/FS Meetings**

- a. Regular meetings. The faculty/FS will act as a body through faculty/FS meetings during the academic year, the frequency, dates, and time to be scheduled by the Director in collaboration with the faculty/FS. A minimum of five meetings should be held each academic year.

2. All joint appointees, part-time, and adjunct faculty/FS members, are encouraged to attend faculty/FS meetings.
3. Agenda. The agenda will be developed by the Director with input from faculty/FS. Emergent items may be discussed under the agenda item “other”.
4. Special Meetings. The faculty/FS may request special meetings. The agenda will be determined by the individual requesting the meeting.
5. Minutes. Written minutes shall be prepared and distributed to all faculty/FS members and to the Director. Minutes will be filed and stored in the School for a period of seven years for documentation purposes, and then deposited in the Bronson School of Nursing archives.

C. Structure

1. The chair of any committees formed by the unit faculty/FS will be determined by the faculty/FS.
2. Committees appointed by the Director will include a recommendation for chair from the faculty/FS.
3. Faculty/FS will elect representation to College and University committees (e.g. Faculty Senate and AAUP).
4. Faculty/FS may be appointed to College or University committees when a specific person/skill is requested (e.g. building committee; COGE; technology committee).

## **Article IV**

### **I. Standing Committees**

- A. There shall be seven standing committees whose chairs for the following year will be selected before the first faculty/FS meeting of the academic year. The functions of each committee are provided elsewhere in the School Policy Statement.
- B. At the end of each Spring semester, the chair of each standing committee shall provide a written annual report to the faculty/FS with a copy to the Director. The report will highlight membership; number of meetings; specific tasks accomplished, in-progress, and projected; recommendations for committee structure, function, or policy. The reports will be filed for documentation purposes.
- C. Standing committees shall include: BSN Curriculum Committee, Student Affairs, Faculty Affairs, Promotion and Tenure, Scholarship and Inquiry, Evaluation/Assessment Committee, and Master of Science in Nursing Program Committee.
- D. The structure and membership of the committees shall be as follows:
  - 1. The BSN Curriculum Committee. A committee composed of at least five faculty/FS, one of whom will serve on the College Curriculum Committee. These members will include: one faculty/FS from each level of the pre-licensure track and one faculty/FS from the registered nurse track and the manager of the Nursing Science Resource Center. The Chair of the MSN

Program Committee will be a member of the Committee. The student advisor will be invited to serve as a non-voting member on the committee. One or two students, in good academic standing, will serve on the committee.

2. Student Affairs. A committee composed of at least four faculty/FS, the Bronson School of Nursing Advisor, and up to two students in good academic standing who will serve as non-voting members.
3. Scholarship and Inquiry. A committee composed of at least four faculty/FS.
4. Faculty Affairs. A committee composed of at least four faculty/FS, with a minimum of one tenured faculty and one faculty specialist.
5. Promotion and Tenure. A committee composed of at least three tenured faculty/FS members at or above the rank sought by the promotion candidates. The committee shall contain at least a majority of traditionally ranked faculty (Article 17.8.3).
6. Evaluation/Assessment Committee. A committee composed of at least four faculty/FS, including one member from the MSN Program Committee; two student representatives, one from the senior level BSN program and one from the MSN program.
7. Master of Science in Nursing Program Committee. A committee composed of at least five faculty/FS, three of whom will be tenured doctorally prepared faculty members. In addition, the chair of the

undergraduate curriculum committee will be a member and the Student Advisor will serve as ex-officio.

- E. The Director may serve ex-officio on committees with the exception of the Promotion and Tenure Committee. The Director may not attend the meeting during discussions of tenure or promotion.
- F. Unit faculty/FS members, as defined elsewhere in this document, will be voting members. Students, as defined elsewhere in this document, will not be voting members.
- G. The terms of office will normally be two years with reappointment based on needs and contributions/expertise.
- H. Recommendations for formation of a task force/advisory committee may be made by any faculty/FS member. Final approval/rejection will be the mandate of the Director, who is expected to consult with the faculty.

## **Article V**

### **I. Committee Functions**

#### **A. BSN Curriculum Committee**

1. Develop, monitor and make recommendations to the faculty/FS and to Western Michigan University regarding the overall BSN curriculum plan for the Bronson School of Nursing including:
  - a. identification and development of new program components or program components/requirements
  - b. revision of programs
  - c. identification and development of new courses
  - d. faculty/FS may provide input to the committee
2. Make recommendations to the Director concerning individual student requests for exceptions to nursing curriculum requirements.
3. Review course content for program integrity.
4. Promote course content that maintains the basic philosophy and standards of the WMU Bronson School of Nursing.
5. Establish, in collaboration with the Evaluation/Assessment Committee, the means of evaluating outcomes of academic programs in order to revise, maintain, or develop curriculum components.
6. Review student evaluation reports of agency learning environment. Determine continuation of agency contracts for student placement.

B. Student Affairs

1. Recommend policy and criteria governing admission to, progression through, and separation from the BSN nursing program.
2. Monitor and make recommendations concerning admission and progression in the BSN program.
3. Develop and review policies and procedures to guide faculty/FS in resolving informal student grievances related to professional issues in accordance with established WMU policy.
4. Make recommendations concerning individual student requests for exceptions to BSN admission and progression policies.
5. Encourage and promote the recruitment of a diversity of students.
6. Respond to student life concerns.
7. Formulate and recommend BSN student advisement policies and practices to the faculty/FS, the Advisor, and the Director.
8. Develop procedures and criteria for student awards.
9. Assist with coordination of pinning ceremony.

C. Scholarship and Inquiry

1. Make recommendations to the Director and faculty/FS that facilitate faculty/FS research, inquiry, and scholarly productivity within the Bronson School of Nursing.

2. Make recommendations to the Director and the faculty/FS that foster the University community's understanding of the discipline and the profession of nursing.
3. Serve in an advisory capacity in regards to Lee Honors College.
4. Work collaboratively with the Nursing Honor Society.

D. Faculty Affairs

1. Review the Bronson School of Nursing Policy Statements annually and make recommendations to the faculty and administration for needed changes/updates (Article 23).
2. In accordance with AAUP criteria, receive requests for any proposed changes to the Bronson School of Nursing Policy Statements. Such requests for amendment(s) shall be circulated to faculty/FS by the Faculty Affairs Chair a minimum of five working days prior to the scheduled bargaining unit meeting at which the proposed amendment(s) shall be discussed.
3. Promote and participate in the recruitment, orientation and retention of faculty/FS.
4. Serve as a Search and Screen Committee which will review material, conduct reference checks, interview candidates, collect written evaluations of applicants, and make recommendations to the Director on matters of faculty appointment.

5. Initiate policies and criteria regarding faculty/FS awards. Make recommendations for the establishment of new awards and selection of appropriate candidates.
6. Collaborate with the Director in the design of faculty/FS development programs.
7. The Faculty Affairs Committee should be regarded by the unit faculty/FS as an advisory group in the matter of the operating budget of the Bronson School of Nursing.

E. Promotion and Tenure Committee

1. Encourage faculty/FS to establish an individual promotion and tenure file.
2. Provide faculty with the procedural guidelines for tenure and promotion review and appeal process as detailed in the current WMU-AAUP Agreement.
3. Review faculty/FS performance toward tenure and promotion.
4. In accordance with AAUP criteria, review requests, and make recommendations for sabbatical leave to the Director.
5. Review material and make recommendations to the Director regarding promotion.
6. Review material and make recommendations to the Director regarding tenure.
7. Only tenured faculty and FS are eligible to serve on the tenure review committee (Article 17.8.3).

8. Only departmental faculty members at or above the rank sought by the promotion candidates may participate in the promotion review process (Article 18.4).

F. Program Evaluation/Assessment Committee

1. Formulate a Master Plan for Evaluation and Assessment for all programs in the School of Nursing in accordance with the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), the University Assessment Committee and other accrediting bodies.
2. Oversee the implementation of the School of Nursing Master Plan for Evaluation and Assessment.
3. Evaluate the ongoing efforts of the School of Nursing to improve quality in accordance with internal policies and external accreditation criteria.
4. Communicate Program Evaluation and Assessment results to the School of Nursing faculty annually.

G. Master of Science in Nursing Program Committee

1. Promote and participate in the recruitment of students for the MSN program.
2. Review student applications, conduct admission interviews, and make decisions regarding students' admission to the MSN program.
3. Formulate progression policies and monitor progression of students.
4. Formulate student advisement policies and monitor advisement practices.

5. Make decisions concerning individual student requests for exceptions to admission, progression, and curriculum requirement policies, including transfer credit issues.
6. Develop and review policies and procedures to guide faculty/FS in resolving informal student grievances related to professional issues in accordance with established WMU policy.
7. Provide a liaison to the School of Nursing Evaluation/Assessment Committee for the assessment and evaluation of the MSN Program in accordance with internal policies and external accreditation criteria.
8. Develop, monitor, and make recommendations to the faculty/FS and to Western Michigan University regarding the overall curriculum plan for the Masters Program including:
  - a. Identification and development of program components or requirements.
  - b. Revision of programs
  - c. Identification and development of new courses
9. Review course content for program integrity.

## Article VI

### I. Tenure

- A. The faculty/FS accept the professional obligation of all eligible faculty to participate in the process leading to colleagues' achievement of tenure.
- B. Tenured faculty/FS members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee who are on academic duty for the given year will make recommendations for tenure. The majority of committee members will be traditionally ranked faculty (Article 17.8.3). If there are less than 3 tenured traditional faculty, the BSON will follow the process noted in AAUP Article 17.8.3.3.
- C. Criteria for tenure evaluation are guided by the current WMU-AAUP Agreement. Evaluation of candidates will include qualifying and judgmental criteria. Both categories are described in the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Articles 17.3, 17.5 to 17.5.3).
- D. Faculty specialists will be evaluated for tenure based on professional competence and professional service (Article 20.2.2), unless the candidate requests an evaluation of their professional recognition (Article 16.8).
- E. Evaluation of candidates must include summary numerical student rating data. All candidates (faculty/FS) will be evaluated on professional competence and professional service criteria. In addition, traditionally ranked faculty will be evaluated on professional recognition criteria. Evaluation of candidates may be conducted on the following criteria, in addition to material submitted by the candidate.
  - a. Professional Competence
    - i. peer evaluations

- ii. self evaluations
  - iii. course and curriculum development
  - iv. production of instructional materials
  - v. participation in a student's independent study
  - vi. participate in student research projects
  - vii. collaborative teaching projects
  - viii. supervision of student's nursing practice
  - iv. practice site development
  - x. national certification exams/conferences
  - xi. student rating data
  - xii. administrative activities as described in candidate's position description
  - xiii. evidence of practice expertise
  - xiv. other materials submitted by candidate
- b. Professional Recognition
- i. publications (refereed journals, monographs, books, chapters, book reviews, critiques)
  - ii. research/grant proposals written, approved, or funded
  - iii. juried presentations or invitational presentations
  - iv. editor of journal, serving on editorial boards, manuscript reviewer
  - v. professional organization activities (local, state, national or international)
  - vi. awards and honors
  - vii. other materials submitted by candidate
- c. Professional Service
- i. documented evidence of participation in school, college, university, community, national, international committees
  - ii. board membership or consultation to agencies (local, state, national, international)

- iii. participation on collaborative practice activities (project/applied research)
- iv. innovative practice activities
- v. recruitment efforts
- vi. community development activities
- vii. awards and honors for service
- viii. other materials submitted by candidate

F. Sequence of Procedure

1. The School will abide by the timetable for carrying out the tenure review of faculty that is detailed in the WMU-AAUP Agreement.
2. The Director is expected to notify eligible faculty and convene the Promotion and Tenure Committee according to the calendar for review.
3. Each faculty/FS member being reviewed will take the initiative to prepare and submit materials in accordance with the stated tenure criteria.
4. Voting will be by written ballot.
5. The Committee Chair will provide the candidate written notification of the committee's recommendation and a letter including a written evaluation and summary statement, as specified in WMU-AAUP contract, will be sent to the candidate.
6. A written report of the recommendation will be sent to the Director after the appeal process has been completed.

G. Appeal

1. The faculty/FS member shall have the right to appeal either a positive or negative recommendation of the tenure committee.

- a. The timetable and procedure for appeal must be in accordance with the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 17.8.7).
- b. Appeal to the Promotion and Tenure Committee shall be made in writing. The appeal will set forth the faculty/FS member's rationale for believing the tenure recommendation should be positive or for believing that the tenure recommendation should be changed in the review letter.
- c. The faculty/FS member has the right to present new evidence in written statements at the appeal meeting that could result in a reversal of the decision or change in the letter, in accordance with Article 11.3.
- d. The revised letter and justification will be made to the faculty/FS member in writing. Only the revised letter will be forwarded to the Director unless the candidate requests otherwise (Article 17.8.7).
- e. If the committee chooses not to revise the recommendation, the original letter and the candidate's appeal letter remain part of the tenure file.

## Article VII

### I. Promotion (Faculty/FS)

- A. General. A promotion is many things: it is a signal of encouragement, a vote of confidence for future performance, and an acknowledgment of current teaching, scholarly and practice performance. The faculty/FS affirms the professional obligation of all traditionally ranked and FS to participate in the process leading to promotion of colleagues.
- B. The Promotion and Tenure Committee will be composed of tenured unit faculty/FS who are on academic duty who are at or above the rank sought by candidate, who are not on sabbatical or leave for a given year, and who are not candidates for promotion in the given year. The majority of committee members will be traditionally ranked faculty (Article 17.8.3). Should the BSON have fewer than 3 full professors, the process outlined in Article 18.4 will be followed.
- C. Criteria for promotion are guided by the current WMU-AAUP Agreement. Educational attainments, length of service in rank and exceptions are detailed in Article 18.
- D. Evaluation of traditionally ranked faculty will include judgmental criteria of professional competence, professional recognition, and professional service. Evaluation of FS may include judgmental criteria of professional competence and professional service unless a FS requests an evaluation of her professional recognition (Article 16.8). Evaluation of candidates may be conducted on the following criteria in addition to material submitted by the candidate.

## 1. Professional competence

- i. peer evaluations
- ii. self evaluations
- iii. course and curriculum development
- iv. production of instructional materials
- v. participation in a student's independent study
- vi. participate in student research projects
- vii. collaborative teaching projects
- viii. supervision of student's nursing practice
- iv. practice site development
- x. national certification exams/conferences
- xi. student evaluation data
- xii. administrative activities as described in candidate's position description
- xiii. evidence of practice expertise
- xiv. other materials submitted by candidate

## 2. Professional recognition

- i. publications (refereed journals, books, non-refereed journals, chapters, monographs, book reviews, critiques)
- ii. research/grant proposals submitted, accepted, or funded
- iii. juried presentations or keynote presentations
- iv. editor of journal, editorial boards, manuscript reviewer
- v. professional leadership organization activities (local, state, national or international)
- vi. awards and honors
- vii. other material submitted by candidate

## 3. Professional Service

- i. documented evidence of participation in school, college, university, community, national and/or international committees
- ii. board member or consultation to agencies (local, state, national, international)
- iii. participation in collaborative practice projects
- iv. innovative practice projects
- v. awards and honors for service
- vi. recruitment efforts
- vii. community development activities
- viii. serving on local, national, international boards
- ix. other materials submitted by candidate

E. Sequence of Procedure

1. The timetable for carrying out promotion review of faculty is detailed in the WMU-AAUP Agreement.
2. The Director is expected to notify faculty of their promotion eligibility according to the dates specified in the WMU-AAUP Agreement.
3. Faculty eligible for promotion shall submit to the chair of the Committee a current file of relevant materials such as vitae, publications, papers, syllabi, evaluation data, and other exhibits the candidate wishes to be considered.
4. Voting will be by written ballot.
5. The committee chair will provide written notification to the candidate by the specified date in the Agreement.
6. A written summary of the decision along with the supporting data will be sent to the faculty/FS member, and, after the time for the appeal has expired, to the Director and the College Promotion Committee.

7. The faculty/FS member shall have the right to appeal positive or negative recommendations of the promotion and tenure committee.
  - a. the timetable for appeal must be in accordance with the Agreement.
  - b. appeal to the Promotion and Tenure Committee shall be in person if desired by the faculty member. The appeal will set forth the faculty/FS member's rationale for believing the promotion should be recommended.
  - c. the faculty/FS member has the right to present new evidence or written statements at the time of the appeal that could result in a reversal of the decision, in accordance with Article 11.3.
  - d. the committee's final recommendation will be made to the faculty member, the Director and the College Promotion Committee.
  - e. if an initial negative decision becomes positive as a result of an appeal, only the revised letter will be forwarded to administration. The candidate may request that "the request for appeal" remain in the promotion file (Article 18.10).

## **Article VIII**

### **I. Appointment and Reappointment**

A. General. One of the Director's responsibilities is to maintain sufficient resources to accomplish the goals of the Bronson School of Nursing. The decision to add faculty/FS to the School is a shared responsibility. The recognition of need and the recruitment, selection, and retention of faculty/FS engaged in high productivity across the range of professional activities requires collaboration between the Director and the faculty/FS.

### **B. Appointments**

1. The Director, in collaboration with the faculty/FS, will undertake a general review of faculty/FS needs, course enrollment, and program needs.
2. The Faculty Affairs Committee shall be responsible for:
  - a. screening applicants
  - b. obtaining references
  - c. making curriculum vitae available for examination
  - d. recommending candidates for on campus interviews
  - e. organizing candidates' campus visits
  - f. recommending candidates for selection to the Director and the College of Health and Human Services.
3. The course coordinators shall offer recommendations to the Director for hiring part-time faculty/FS in accordance with the current WMU-AAUP Agreement.

C. Reappointments will be conducted according to Article 14 of the current WMU-AAUP Agreement.

## **Article IX**

### **I. Ranked Faculty/FS Evaluation**

- A. General. The purpose of evaluation is focused on productivity, quality of contributions, and the goal of excellence in teaching and practice. See Article 16, Evaluation of Faculty, for specific criteria related to the evaluation process.
- B. Self-Evaluation: Professional Activities Report (PAR)
  - 1. Pursuant to Article 42.12, all bargaining unit and adjunct faculty/FS shall update their curriculum vitae in the first year of a new contract and complete a Professional Activities Report (PAR) by 15 October each year. The PAR will be submitted to the Director/Dean.
  - 2. It is the policy of the faculty that, in addition to the PAR, all faculty submit an annual self-evaluation by 15 October each year. The intent of the self-evaluation is to:
    - a. attempt to match the faculty/FS professional goals with faculty/FS workload, assignments, and committee-work;
    - b. encourage faculty/FS development;
    - c. promote self-governance ideals;
    - d. prepare faculty/FS for promotion and tenure processes;
    - e. evaluation data for personnel decisions.
  - 3. According to the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 16.1), the faculty and FS will be evaluated to identify and reward faculty and to improve competence and performance.

- C. Student ratings. The purpose of student ratings is to 1) improve the quality of instruction, 2) evaluate the curricula and the programs.
1. The WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 16) mandates student ratings of faculty/FS in at least one semester each academic year.
  2. The School of Nursing also requires course evaluations and nursing practice agency evaluations each semester.
  3. Term faculty must conduct student ratings in the first semester of their term appointment (Article 16.6.1).
  4. Procedure.
    - a. Prior to the end of each semester the faculty will schedule evaluations of the course and the nursing practice agencies. On a scheduled day and time, students will complete the course, the nursing practice agencies, and the faculty/FS evaluations. The students will place the evaluations in a sealed envelope and deliver them to the support staff of the School of Nursing.
    - b. Faculty/FS will receive teaching, course and agency evaluations from the support staff AFTER grades are submitted.
    - c. Course evaluation data will be reviewed by the course faculty and summaries of those data will be shared with the curriculum committee and filed in the School of Nursing for the purpose of program review and accreditation. (CCNE: Board of Nursing).

- D. Classroom Visitation. The current WMU-AAUP Agreement requires pre-tenure classroom visitations. The procedure is outlined in the current agreement (Article 16.3.3). At least one classroom visitation is required for all pre-tenure faculty/FS. The observer will prepare a narrative report, as required by the current agreement, to be sent to the Director. After 3 years in the probationary track, the faculty member and the Director may determine that no further classroom visits shall be necessary for the duration of the probationary period. (Articles 16.3.3.1 to 16.3.3.1.2)
- E. The School of Nursing will utilize the standardized student rating instrument approved by the University, CHHS, and individual faculty selection of relevant criteria.
- F. Peer Evaluations. While not required by the WMU-AAUP Agreement for tenured faculty/FS, individuals may solicit evaluations regarding practice or classroom teaching performance from colleagues (See D. above). Peer evaluations may be included in annual reports (PAR) or promotion/tenure files.

## **Article X**

### **I. Sabbatical Leave**

A. General. Sabbatical leaves are intended to promote professional growth of faculty/FS and to enhance scholarship and teaching effectiveness. Such leaves contribute to these ends by enabling faculty/FS to undertake specific planned activities involving research, scholarship, and creative work of mutual benefit to the faculty/FS, the School, the College, the University, the Community, and the Discipline and Profession of Nursing. Sabbaticals are for one or two semesters per WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 26).

### **B. Eligibility.**

1. Eligibility for sabbatical leave shall be consistent with the WMU-AAUP Agreement.
2. The Faculty Affairs Committee assumes the responsibility of considering sabbatical applications.
3. The Faculty Affairs Committee shall consider each application on its merits, in terms of projected benefits for the individual, the School, the College, The University, and the Community, as well as the prospect of success of the sabbatical. More specifically, the committee will consider the following:
  - a. The proposal's merit in its own right.
  - b. The proposal's merit for the individual.
  - c. The benefits to the School and to the Discipline of Nursing.

4. All sabbatical applications and committee recommendations will be forwarded to the Director.

## **Article XI**

### **I. Work Load**

- A. Intent. The Bronson School of Nursing faculty/FS, in pursuit of excellence in education, research, and practice, recommend that workloads of the School be viewed as encompassing many professional duties and responsibilities, including but not limited to:
1. Teaching and/or providing instructional support in a variety of manners and settings;
  2. Serving on committees (department, college, university);
  3. Supervising nursing practice experiences for students;
  4. Coordinating nursing courses or levels;
  5. Advising and mentoring students;
  6. Directing and engaging in research, publication, and other scholarly activities;
  7. Fulfilling ongoing departmental needs of both a maintenance and developmental nature;
  8. Supporting the proper and efficient functioning of the college and university as a whole by performing committee work, by providing consultation to the University and its communities, and by participation in a variety of other relevant activities; and
  9. Contributing to the operations of professional nursing associations/accrediting bodies at the international, national, state, and regional levels.

B. The Bronson School of Nursing faculty/FS recommend the following principles be used in determining workload:

1. For bargaining unit faculty who are not faculty specialists, the maximum fulltime faculty workload shall be twenty-four (24) credit hours of regularly scheduled courses in any one(1) academic or alternate academic year, or six (6) credit hours in the Summer I or Summer II sessions. It shall be possible, by mutual agreement, to balance out fewer than twelve (12) credit hours (or equivalent work assignment) in one semester with more than twelve (12) credit hours (or equivalent work assignment) in another semester (Article 42.4). For faculty specialists, the maximum full-time workload shall conform to the provisions of Article 20, Faculty Specialist, of thirty (30) credit hours.
2. The Michigan Board of Nursing requires a ratio of no less than 1 faculty/FS to 10 pre-professional students when supervising students in a clinical setting.
3. Faculty/FS supervisory responsibilities of students in nursing practice include direct and indirect supervision of client care.
4. The ratio of faculty/FS in a laboratory/skills clinical section of a course will be no less that 1 faculty/FS to 15 pre-professional students.
5. Responsibilities for supportive assignments such as advising, department, College, University work shall be assumed by individual faculty/FS members. The WMU-AAUP Agreement provides that each faculty/FS

member may be assigned up to 20 advisees, without workload adjustment (Article 42.9.1).

6. A faculty/FS member who perceives that her/his workload exceeds the recommended parameters set forth in this article shall have the right to appeal. The procedure of appeal is stated in the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 42.10).
7. Workload assignments should be made in advance of the submission of the course schedule of classes to allow discussion between the faculty/FS and the Director.
8. Additional Professional Responsibilities. Additionally, it is recommended that faculty/FS members who support the proper and efficient functioning of professional societies as a whole in leadership roles, editorial work, conference organization, or board work may be considered for workload adjustments by the Director.
9. Faculty/FS who are engaged in scholarly activities as defined in the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 42.5) may be considered for workload adjustments by the Director.
10. WMU Bronson School of Nursing Workload Calculation Proposals (Fall 2006):
  - A. Didactic (theory) credits would be assigned workload credits in a 1:1 ratio for all courses taught within the School of Nursing.
  - B. Clinical (practice) credits would be assigned workload credits as allocated to the course with a multiplier of 2.0. For example, a

course with 3 credits of clinical would equal 3 credits X 2.0 for 6 workload credits. In addition, section sizes need to be considered based on the level of student.

C. Other

- a. Writing intensive courses that meet university guidelines will be given 1.5 credit per section of didactic (e.g. a total of 4.5 credits for a 3 credit course).
- b. Scholarly activity – credits allocated for traditional tenure/tenure track faculty in negotiation with the director based upon evidence of program of scholarship
- c. Course preparation – 1 credit for first time teaching of any course
- d. Course development – credits allocated in negotiation with director based on complexity of course (general formula is 1 credit per course)
- e. Course coordination – 1 credit per course (not per section of a course) with multiple labs
- f. Clinical coordination – 1 credit per course (for courses that include a clinical component). Additionally, clinical coordinators who are required to orient and supervise clinical faculty (adjunct or otherwise) who are new to their course may negotiate additional workload commensurate with the number of these faculty.

g. MSN Thesis/Project Committees

1. It is recommended that chairpersons be allocated 0.5 credit hour per student thesis/project per semester (typically 3 semesters duration per MSN thesis/project).
2. It is recommended that other committee members receive 0.5 credit hour per student thesis/project for the semester during which the thesis/project is defended.

h. Lee Honors College

1. It is recommended that chairpersons of Lee Honors College students' honors project/thesis be allocated 0.5 credit hour per student for the semester during which the thesis/project is defended.

## Article XII

### I. Budget

- A. The Director is expected to present a summary of expenditures so that the faculty/FS may make meaningful recommendations to Western Michigan University and the Director concerning allocations and expenditures.
- B. The Faculty Affairs Committee should be regarded by the unit faculty/FS as an advisory group in the matter of the operating budget of the Bronson School of Nursing.

## Article XIII

### I. Equitable distribution of opportunities to teach Summer, and Extended University Programs

A. The following recommendations shall serve as a guide in determining faculty/FS teaching assignments in the Summer sessions, as well as Extended University Programs:

1. Unit faculty/FS have preferences for teaching summer sessions as stated in the WMU-AAUP Agreement (Article 41.1). Unit faculty/FS have priority over part-time or graduate assistants for up to 6 credit hours of Summer teaching. Moreover, Summer classes will be distributed equitably among unit faculty/FS as per WMU-AAUP Agreement.
2. The program needs of the School shall be the primary consideration.
3. Teaching preferences of individual faculty/FS members as communicated in writing to the Director shall be the second consideration.
4. Summer and Extended University Programs will be reviewed by the appropriate School and College Committees in order to make recommendations to the Director.
5. Recommendations to the Director regarding specific courses and/or faculty/FS teaching assignments shall emanate from the course coordinator.
6. The final schedule of summer and extended university programs shall be presented to faculty/FS prior to its submission for printing and publication.

7. Faculty/FS should be informed of their projected teaching assignments for the school year before the beginning of the academic year.
  8. Faculty/FS are limited to the number of EUP courses in addition to the regular workload as stipulated in the WMU-AAUP Agreement.
- B. In order to insure equity among faculty/FS in the assignment of teaching responsibilities in summer, and extended university programs, the faculty/FS recommends that:
1. A systematic rotation of teaching assignments be instituted.
  2. Full time board appointed faculty/FS who did not work full-time in either the summer sessions of the preceding year and who were employed by WMU at that time shall be given first priority for appointment in the summer sessions.