RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY WITHDRAWAL POLICY

Academic Affairs Committee

Whereas, the Academic Affairs Committee (“the Committee”) was charged with preparing an updated or revised plan for the UCA student course withdrawal policy; and

Whereas, current UCA policy allows students to withdraw from a sixteen-week course with a grade of “W” during the eleventh week of classes (with correlating deadlines for five-week, eight-week, and summer terms); and

Whereas, current UCA policy allows students to withdraw from a sixteen-week course with a grade of “WP” (Withdraw Passing) or “WF” (Withdraw Failing) during the fifteenth week of classes (with correlating deadlines for five-week, eight-week, and summer terms); and

Whereas, the use of WP and WF grades have been used inconsistently across campus with few faculty members assigning a WF under the belief that it is unfairly punitive; and

Whereas, UCA’s current “W” deadline needs to be adjusted to allow for students to assess progress towards the desired grade and affirm their commitment to the course; and

Whereas, some constituencies (specifically veteran’s affairs and international engagement) value knowing if a student’s withdrawal from a course was student-initiated or administratively-initiated (such as for nonattendance);

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the faculty senate recommends:

* that the “WP” and “WF” grades be eliminated effective fall 2017.
* that the deadline to withdraw from a course with a “W” will be the Friday of the **twelfth** week of classes (with correlating deadlines for the five-week, eight-week, and summer terms).
* that the term “WA” be created to designate “administrative withdrawal” to be used at any point in the semester except as a final grade to indicate that a student was administratively withdrawn from the course.