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**BUDGET AND ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION**

SR-07-08-(15) 46 BAPC

In response to a request from the Dean of Student Affairs, the current policy in the 2007-08 General Undergraduate Catalog pertaining to Class Attendance, particularly the EXCUSED ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS sections, was reviewed for clarity and applicability in the current socio-political and religious environment.

As a result, the Budget and Academic Policy Committee recommends that the current policy be revised as follows with deletions being indicated with ~~strikethrough~~.

Definitions of Excused Absences (pg 128-129): *Excused absences fall into five categories:....*

5. Religious Holidays: This applies to ~~major~~ religious holidays. ~~Please see the Dean of Student Affairs for a list of such holidays.~~

Process to Secure an Excused Absence (pg 129-130): *The student who seeks an excused absence must do so immediately after the event....*

5. Religious Holidays: Absences resulting from ~~major~~ religious holidays will be excused when the student presents the request in advance of the absence to the Dean of Student Affairs. The dean will indicate his/her official excused absence notification to faculty.

RATIONALE:

Attendance policies for fifteen peer institutions were compared for specificity and consistency, revealing a diverse approach. In addition, area experts in religious studies content were consulted, resulting in recommendations against identifying "acceptable and unacceptable" major religious holidays.

FACULTY SENATE CHAIR:

APPROVED BY THE
FACULTY SENATE:

 Larry Steibler DATE: 2/1/2008

DISAPPROVED BY THE
FACULTY SENATE:

_____ DATE: _____

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT:

APPROVED: _____ DATE: 2/6/08

DISAPPROVED: _____ DATE: _____

COMMENTS: _____

