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**Professional Concerns Committee  
Minutes of 23 October 2024**

**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Western Michigan University Faculty Senate Professional Concerns Committee was called to order at 12:33 p.m. on 23 October 2024, via Webex conferencing by Rena VanDerwall, chair.

**Members Present:** Michael Kahwaji, Richard Meyer, Marian Tripplett, Rena VanDerwall, Amy Zufelt

**Members Absent:** John Miller

**Advisory Members Present:** Joe Erskine (substitute for Sarah Meister), Eric McConnell

**Guests:** None

**Ex Officio:** Dennis Simpson

**Quorum**

A quorum was present with six members in attendance, of the five needed to establish quorum.

**Agenda**

It was moved by Zufelt, seconded by Meyer, to accept the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

**Election**

VanDerwall resigned from the chair position but will remain on PCC. Kahwaji was nominated for 2024-25 PCC chair.

It was moved VanDerwall, seconded by Meyer to elect Kahwaji as PCC chair for 2024-25. The motion carried

**Minutes**

It was moved by Meyer, seconded by Zufelt, to approve the 18 September 2024 minutes as presented. The motion carried.

**Reports of Officers**

Chair VanDerwall did not provide a report.

Ex Officio Simpson reported on the complaints about the hardship process and program concerns.

**Reports of University Representatives**

Erskine did not provide a report.

McConnell provided an update on the presentation at Faculty Senate meeting, including notice the Ombuds can serve to students and faculty for individual issues. The Ombuds office now has a graduate assistant which is timely given the anticipated increase in referrals on the last day to withdraw which is 28 October.

**Unfinished Business**

Grade Appeal and Program Dismissal Appeals

VanDerwall provided an update on the request to require clinical faculty be part of Grade and Program Dismissal Appeal processes to inform the discussion/decision recommendations. PCC requested Drew Zolp prepare and submit a draft proposal outlining the request. Ex Officio Simpson to follow up with Zolp so the proposal can be reviewed at the next PCC meeting.

**Announcements**

None.

**Adjournment**

It was moved by VanDerwall, seconded by Meyer, to adjourn the meeting at 1:31 p.m. The motion carried unanimously. The Professional Concerns Committee will next meet on 20 November 2024 via Webex.

**Approval**

Submitted by Marian Tripplett, substitute Secretary

Minutes approved 20 November 2024.