**OAKLAND UNIVERSITY\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**GRADUATE COUNCIL POLICY MODIFICATION**

**GRADUATE GRADING SYSTEM – School of Medicine New Grades**

**Rationale**

The Graduate Council respectfully requests the University Senate approve the recommendation to update the graduate grading system to include new grades for students admitted to the Doctor of Medicine degree program in the School of Medicine effective Fall 2011 based on the following:

1. The majority of medical schools use the Pass/Fail schema, rather than the more traditional letter or numeric grading method to assess student performance.
2. Examples of the most common grading intervals defined within the Pass/Fail schema are represented in the list below:

* 2 Intervals = Pass/Fail
* 3 Intervals = Honors/Pass/Fail
* 4 Intervals = Honors/High Pass/Pass/Fail
* 5 Intervals = Honors/High Pass/Pass/Low Pass/Fail

**Recommendation**

Assessment of medical student learning will be based on a Pass/Fail schema that utilizes a three (3) interval grading range defined as Honors/Pass/Fail. All courses and clerkships offered by the School of Medicine will be graded on the **Honors/Pass/Fail** system, which will also include the **I (Incomplete)** and **W (Withdraw)** grades.

The students in the School of Medicine will be assessed on their ability to meet stated competencies and not by comparison of their performance to the performance of their classmates. Students must earn a passing grade in each course and clerkship to remain in good academic standing and satisfy the degree requirements for the Doctor of Medicine.

Criteria for assigning Honors, Pass and Fail grades follow parameters recommended by the OUWB School of Medicine Curriculum Committee and may include (but are not be limited to) performance on quizzes, examinations, small group and team-based learning activities, laboratory reports, laboratory practical examinations, OSCE-type clinical skills examinations, papers, reflective writing assignments, attendance at required sessions, faculty and peer evaluation.

The **HN (Honors)** is a permanent grade, assigned by the faculty responsible for the course or clerkship, which denotes student performance exceeds expectations. HN grades are included as attempted and earned credit, but not included in computation of cumulative averages.

The **PA (Pass)** is a permanent grade, assigned by the faculty responsible for the course or clerkship, which denotes student performance meets expectations. PA grades are included as attempted and earned credit, but not included in computation of cumulative averages.

The **FL (Fail)** is a permanent grade, assigned by the faculty responsible for the course or clerkship, which denotes student performance does not meet expectations. FL grades are included as attempted credits, but not included in earned credit or in computation of cumulative averages.