3.1.5 Progressive Rigor of Academic Programs

The <u>University Senate charges the</u> Undergraduate Council, Graduate Council, the Health Care Colleges Council and the College of Law Faculty Council <u>to shall</u> propose criteria for evaluating the rigor and quality of academic programs and, upon final approval by the University Senate, apply these criteria in their approval processes, as <u>provided below</u>. The <u>Senate charges the Councils specifically with the following:</u>

- A. The Undergraduate Council must propose shall develop criteria for undergraduate degree program proposals that require a progression in complexity and mastery through the course of the degree. This includes examining courses in a program to ensure a progression of learning across a continuum from introductory to applied or theoretical courses from the first to fourth year. The evidence for progression should shall be illustrated by student learning outcomes for the program that are then mapped across the curriculum to show evidence of increased complexity and rigor as a student progresses. Points of assessment of these student learning outcomes across the curriculum should shall also be evident in the curriculum map.
- B. The Graduate Council must proposeshall develop criteria to ensure that graduate degree programs are differentiated in complexity and rigor from undergraduate degree programs. The Graduate Council must ensure that courses which have both graduates and undergraduates have clearly differentiated requirements that speak to levels of rigor and complexity. The Graduate Council will-shall establish criteria for the differentiation of master's level and doctoral level rigor, as well as increasing complexity and mastery as students progress through the degree.
- C. Health Care Colleges Council must proposeshall develop criteria that ensure that the academic, professional and clinical experience of professional students is differentiated from that of undergraduate and graduate students and is at the appropriate and increasing levels of mastery and complexity.
 - D. The College of Law Faculty Council will shall establish criteria that ensure that the progression through the law degree is marked by increasing levels of rigor and complexity. The Council will establish criteria for this progression.

The approved criteria will shall be posted on the web site of each Council, as well as on the University Senate web site for curricular proposals and forms.