

University Council

Educational Affairs Committee - 2018-2019

Mark Farmer, Arts and Sciences (Sciences), Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - Jean Williams-Woodward

(also representing Forestry and Natural Resources)

Arts and Sciences – Barbara Biesecker (Arts)

Steven Lewis (Sciences)

Business - Santanu Chatterjee

Education – Diane Cooper

Environment and Design - Ronald Sawhill

(also representing Public Health, Social Work, and Ecology)

Family and Consumer Sciences – Denise Lewis

Journalism and Mass Communication – Shira Chess

Public and International Affairs – Teena Wilhelm

Veterinary Medicine – Susan Williams

(also representing Pharmacy, Law, and Engineering)

Provost's Representative – Rahul Shrivastav

Undergraduate Student Representative - Jan Joho

Graduate/Professional Student Representative - Dannie Chalk

The Educational Affairs Committee met on September 24, 2018, and October 22, 2018. Since the last report to University Council, the Petitions Subcommittee has reviewed 45 student appeals. Of those appeals, 34 were approved and 11 were denied.

Mark Farmer updated the committee on the status of the revision to Policy 4.02-3, University Policy on Course Drops and Withdrawals, which was approved by the Educational Affairs Committee at the August 27, 2018, meeting. The proposal was considered by the Executive Committee and returned for additional rationale for the revisions. Mark Farmer submitted a rationale draft for the committee to consider. The committee agreed that the previously revised proposal should be amended with the rationale and returned to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Mark Farmer updated the committee on the status of the revision to Policy 4.03-1, Presidential Scholar and Dean's List, which was approved by the Educational Affairs Committee at the February 26, 2018, meeting and discussed at the March 23, 2018, meeting. The proposal was considered by the Executive Committee at the April 2, 2018, meeting and returned for further consideration. Previous revisions to this policy included a change to the minimum GPA required to qualify for Dean's List as well as the addition of language regarding students approved for a reduced full course load through the Disability Resource Center. Mark Farmer presented a draft for the committee to consider which removed the GPA requirement revisions and only included

language regarding reduced course loads. A motion was made to forward the policy revision to the Executive Committee for consideration. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved. The committee discussed the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 Academic Calendars. Some external websites listed incorrect dates, but the official calendar posted on the University of Georgia Registrar's website is correct. The Registrar's Office provided a draft of the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar for the committee to review. The committee members will obtain feedback from the schools/colleges they represent.

The Office of Academic Honesty provided the 2017-2018 Academic Affairs Honesty Annual Report, which will be forwarded to the University Council for information only. The committee discussed the possibility of researching software that would help detect plagiarism and asked for information regarding products used by peer and aspirational institutions.

Mark Farmer updated the committee on the block scheduling proposal that was discussed earlier in the year. He will continue to work with the Office of Institutional Research and the Student Government Association to get more data and feedback about the proposal.

The committee discussed concerns raised over inconsistent grading between sections of the same course when taught by multiple instructors. After much discussion, Mark Farmer agreed to provide some data to committee members for review, and the committee agreed to continue the discussion at a future meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Farmer, Chair

Educational Affairs Committee

cc: Interim Provost Libby Morris

Dr. Rahul Shrivastav