



## 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 – Matthew McDaniel

Graduate/Professional Student Representative – Dannie Chalk

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The Educational Affairs Committee met on February 11, 2019, and March 25, 2019. Since the last report to University Council, the Petitions Subcommittee has reviewed 80 student appeals. Of those appeals, 64 were approved, 15 were denied, and 1 was tabled.

Dr. Joseph Hermanowicz presented a proposal to revise Policy 4.02-3, University Policy on Course Drops and Withdrawals, to allow instructors to withdraw students from their courses due to excessive absences after the withdrawal deadline. Under the current policy, no instructor-initiated withdrawals are processed after the withdrawal deadline, and instructors who choose to withdraw a student after that time must assign a letter grade. The proposed revision would give instructors the option to assign a "W" to these students instead. After some discussion, a motion was made to approve the revised policy with a friendly amendment. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved. The proposal was then forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee for consideration.

The Student Government Association presented a proposal to amend the current grading scale to include an A+ option. The proposal did not seek to amend the current GPA scale, only to provide a designation of A+ on the academic transcript. After much discussion, no motion was made on this proposal.

The Student Government Association presented a proposal to amend Academic Affairs Policy No. 13, Syllabus. The proposed revision would include a mandatory statement on the master syllabi that provides information about mental health resources on campus. After some discussion, a motion was made to approve the proposal with friendly amendments. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved. This proposal was then forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee for consideration.

A proposed revision to the University Council Bylaws, Section 1.VII. Educational Affairs Committee, from the University Council Committee on Statutes, Bylaws, and Committees was presented to the committee. The proposed revision alters the structure of representation on the Educational Affairs Committee based on shifts in student enrollment in schools/colleges. The committee had no objection to this proposal being forwarded to the Executive Committee.

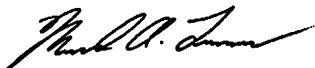
The committee briefly discussed the current attendance policies and the need to update them. The committee will continue discussion of these policies in the future.

The committee discussed a proposal to revise the Daily Class Schedule, with suggested modifications including increased time between classes and a later start time. The committee reviewed the results of both student and faculty surveys regarding the proposed changes. The committee agreed to continue discussion of this proposal at future meetings. No action was taken on this discussion item.

The committee discussed a proposal from the Student Government Association to allow students to reschedule a test if the student has more than three tests within a 24 hour period. After some discussion, the committee concluded that this should remain as a discussion between students and instructors, and a formal policy was not necessary. No action was taken on this discussion item.

The committee discussed a proposal to revise Policy 4.01-3, Academic Renewal, to update wording to mirror the Board of Regents' Academic Renewal policy. Four sentences in the current UGA policy were identified as varying from BOR policy. A motion was made to adopt the wording from the BOR policy for three of the four statements and to leave the fourth unchanged. A vote was taken, and the motion was approved. This proposal was then forwarded to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Farmer, Chair  
Educational Affairs Committee

cc: Interim Provost Libby V. Morris  
Dr. Rahul Shrivastav