



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – 2014-2015

Dr. Rodney Mauricio, Arts and Sciences (Sciences), Chair

Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - Dr. Jean Williams-Woodward
(also representing Forestry and Natural Resources)

Arts and Sciences - Dr. Roxanne Eberle (Arts)

Dr. Mark Farmer (Sciences)

Business – Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro

Education – Dr. Laura Bierema

Environment and Design – Mr. David Spooner

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

Family and Consumer Sciences - Dr. Andy Carswell

Journalism and Mass Communication - Mr. David Hazinski

Public and International Affairs - Dr. Brock Tessman

Veterinary Medicine – Dr. Shannon Holmes

(also representing Pharmacy, Law, and Engineering)

Provost's Representative – Dr. Rahul Shrivastav

Undergraduate Student Representative – Mr. Ryan Brush

Graduate/Professional Student Representative – Ms. Arlana Henry

The Educational Affairs Committee met on February 2 and March 16. Since the last report to University Council, the Petitions Subcommittee met four times and reviewed 101 appeals. Of these appeals, 62 were approved and 39 were denied.

The committee discussed appeals involving students who have incomplete grades in courses from previous terms and are retaking these courses in future terms, as well as students who mistakenly registered to audit courses. Changes in the registration system make it more likely that students will unknowingly register for courses as audits. The committee urged that changes be made to correct this problem and that students and advisors be made aware of the issue.

At the February 2, 2015, meeting, Debbie Bell provided the 2013-2014 Academic Honesty Annual Report.

The committee discussed a procedure for the non-reporting of grades announced in December by the Registrar. Grades of ER and NR have been replaced with a grade of NG in Banner. If a grade of NG is not changed within three semesters, the grade will be changed to W. The committee expressed concern that this represented a loophole in the withdrawal procedure. Data on the number of NG grades assigned was requested. The committee discussed possible changes to policy that would not allow the extended non-reporting of grades.

At the March 16, 2015, meeting, an update was given regarding NG grades. An email was sent to professors on Friday, March 13, reminding them to assign grades for students who had not been assigned grades for fall semester. Those students automatically received grades of NG. Of the students with NG grades, twenty-five

percent were undergraduates, and most of the graduate classes were internships, research, independent study, or similar types of classes. Dr. Mauricio stated that the committee will continue monitoring the assignment of NG grades. He asked the Registrar to continue gathering this data for review next year to see if there is a pattern.

The committee briefly discussed the paper grade change forms which have temporarily replaced the electronic grade change form. The university is working on developing an electronic grade change process that is compatible with Banner.

The committee considered two versions of a proposed academic calendar for 2016-2017. The Registrar stated that she met with the ad hoc subcommittee of EAC to review the academic calendar, and the subcommittee made the recommendation to begin spring semester classes at least one Monday before the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and to revisit the Thanksgiving holiday schedule. The Registrar also met with the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, Office of Student Financial Aid, Office of University Housing, and a student advisory committee to obtain input for the academic calendar. The committee considered two proposed versions of the 2016-2017 academic calendar, and the Registrar asked that the proposed calendar titled Version 1 which begins on Thursday, August 11, 2016, be considered. After some discussion, the committee approved the proposed calendar titled Version 1.

The committee considered a revision to the Academic Dismissal Policy. The Registrar reported that after review of student records, only two examples existed of students who were affected by the complicated scale of hours attempted and minimum cumulative GPA included in the current Academic Dismissal Policy. The proposed revision to the policy simplifies the policy so that all students with a cumulative UGA GPA below 2.0 for two or more semesters must earn a term average of 2.3 or higher to avoid dismissal until they raise their cumulative UGA GPA to a 2.0 or higher. The committee approved the proposal to revise the Academic Dismissal Policy.

The committee considered a revision to the Presidential Scholar and Dean's List Policy. The policy currently states that to be named a Presidential Scholar, students must have achieved during the preceding semester a grade point average of 4.0, earned at least 14 hours, with a minimum of 12 hours in courses graded A-F (9 hours during the summer semester, with a minimum of 6 hours in courses graded A-F) numbered 1000 or higher, and received no unsatisfactory or incomplete grades. The minimum number of hours graded A-F is difficult to determine, and all students who met the requirements for the Presidential Scholar designation took courses graded A-F. Therefore, requiring a minimum number of hours graded A-F is not relevant. The committee briefly discussed the proposal and approved the revisions to the Presidential Scholar and Dean's List Policy. The committee will revisit the possibility of changing the minimum number of hours required to receive the Presidential Scholar designation in each semester. The Registrar will compile data for the committee to review.

At the March 16, 2015, meeting, the committee re-elected Dr. Mauricio as Chair of the Educational Affairs Committee for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Respectfully submitted,



Rodney Mauricio
Chair, Educational Affairs Committee