



Educational Affairs Committee - Minutes

October 6, 2009 – 3:30 p.m.

Tate Student Center – Room 143

Members Present: Jeffrey Dorfman (Chair), Tyler Biringer, Gayle Andrews, Tracie Costantino, Stephen Rathbun, Lonnie Brown, Rodney Mauricio, Loch Johnson, Ann Crowther, and Robert Shostak (representing William Rooks)

Others: Jere Morehead (OVPI), Deborah Bell (OVPI), Maggie Kerins (OVPI), Mimi Ensley (Red and Black), Rebecca Macon (Registrar), Malcolm Adams (Mathematics), and Alan Campbell (Student Affairs)

Dr. Jeffrey Dorfman called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. First, the August 25, 2009 Educational Affairs Committee minutes were approved. The Committee was then asked to review the proposed Spring EAC meeting dates and respond to Maggie Kerins with their availability.

Branch Campus Residency Requirements: Dr. Dorfman warned of a potential issue facing the Committee of students from branch campuses appealing to waive the residency requirement. The Committee agreed that if the issue was to be discussed further, it would be helpful to have Cathy Clutter attend the meeting.

Academic Honesty Annual Report: Debbie Bell presented the 2008-2009 Academic Honesty Annual Report which will move forward to the University Council Executive Committee at its next meeting as an information item.

Course Withdrawal Policy: Malcolm Adams addressed the Department of Mathematics' request to change the University's Course Withdrawal Policy. The proposal would allow a student (prior to the midpoint withdrawal deadline) to select to withdraw from up to four courses during their enrollment at UGA without penalty. The grade assigned would be a W, not a WP or WF. After a discussion, the Committee decided to revisit this issue in a year after the new policy, adopted in Fall 2008, is given a chance to be successfully implemented—specifically to curb student withdrawals. It was agreed that when this issue is discussed again, it will be helpful to obtain some relevant data before the meeting.

Proposal to Require Substantive Knowledge of Midterm Grade to Students: Tyler Biringer brought forward a proposal from the Student Government Association requesting that students become aware of their midterm grade before the withdrawal deadline. After discussing the problems facing the implementation of a policy, the Committee agreed to use the Compact for Responsible Scholarship to encourage instructors to return grades in a timely manner. Dr. Loch Johnson agreed to request the Compact be distributed by the Teaching Academy.

Computerized Petitions Process Update: Maggie Kerins informed the Committee that the new online submission and review for academic appeals is scheduled to be tested October 15-22. At the next EAC meeting, the Committee will be shown a demonstration of the process, and that the process will be in place for the November 17th Petitions Subcommittee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. The next Educational Affairs Committee meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2009 at 3:30 p.m. in 143 of the Tate Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Kerins

Office of the Vice President for Instruction