MINUTES
EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
March 16, 2004

Members Present: Malcolm Adams, Woody Beck, Ann Crowther, Dan DerVartanian, Elena Karahanna, Karen Shetterley, Victor Wilson
Guests: Rebecca Macon & Shirley Childers (Registrar’s Office), Bob Hill (Education), Maureen Grasso & Krista Haynes

Malcolm Adams called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. The minutes of the February 12, 2004 meeting were approved.

Because Marsha Black agreed to serve on the Housing Appeals Committee, Woody Beck and Elena Karahanna agreed to replace her on upcoming Petition Subcommittees.

Dr. Adams explained that he and Woody Beck met with Beth Bailey of Legal Affairs to discuss adding “sexual orientation” to protected classes in UGA’s Non-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy. Woody proposed that the EAC send the policy to the University Council with the addition of “sexual orientation” in the list of protected groups where appropriate in the policy. The members voted unanimously to support the proposal.

Proposed changes to the University’s academic honesty policy, A Culture of Honesty was sent back to the Educational Affairs Committee from the Executive Committee of University Council for reconsideration of the sanction(s) for subsequent violations. Debbie Bell asked that the members also approve removing reference to a final grade of “NR” while an allegation is pending. After a brief discussion, the members voted to send the policy back to the Executive Committee with the sanction for a second violation as expulsion and a transcript notation with possible degree revocation and removal of the reference to the “NR” grade.

Malcolm Adams presented the next agenda item – the University’s Grade Appeals Policy. Currently, there is little consistency in how schools and colleges handle grade appeals. Dr. Adams will meet with Beth Bailey and representatives from the Franklin College to discuss this matter and possibly bring it back to the Educational Affairs Committee at a later meeting.

Dr. Maureen Grasso asked the members to consider adding an additional day for drop/add. The current 4 day drop/add presents a hardship on graduate students because many graduate level courses are only taught once a week leaving some students without an opportunity to attend a class before drop/add is over. After much discussion, the members by a vote of 4-1-1, approved a motion to extend the drop/add period to 5 business days.

Ms. Shirley Childers presented the amended 2004-2005 academic calendar to the members. The calendar included the 5th summer session approved by the University Council. This calendar passed unanimously. Next, Ms. Childers presented the 2005-2006 academic calendar. Dr. Adams suggested that the Fall break should not fall just prior to the GA/FL football weekend but earlier in the term. He explained that it was disruptive to teaching to break for this weekend, come back for two or three weeks and then break again for Thanksgiving. The members debated the issues related to keeping the break as it has been for the last few years (close to the GA/FL football game) or moving it as suggested by Dr. Adams. A vote was called and the motion passed to present the 2005-2006 academic calendar to the University Council with fall break earlier in the semester and not aligned with the GA/FL football game.

Malcolm Adams adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next full meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee will be scheduled in early August, 2004.