MINUTES EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE September 20, 2005

Members Present: James Anderson, Rose Chepyator-Thomson, Ann Crowther, Dan DerVartanian, Laurie Fowler, Karen Leonas, Sarajane Love, Denise Mewborn, William Vencill, Theresa Glasheen, Daniel Byrd

Guests: Rebecca Macon - Registrar, Susan Little - Financial Aid, Kimberly Ballard-Washington - Legal Affairs

Dr. James Anderson called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. and asked those present to introduce themselves.

3A list of 2005-2006 Petitions Subcommittee meeting dates and times was distributed and faculty members were asked to sign up for at least three of the meetings. Dr. Anderson reported on the action taken on student appeals by the September Petitions Subcommittee members and the August 23, 2005 Educational Affairs Committee minutes were approved.

The next item of business was a lengthy discussion about proposed revisions to The General Academic Policy on Student Appeals (the Educational Affairs Committee's operating procedures). Of particular concern to committee members was the lack of explicit directions for both the student appealing a grade and the Petitions Subcommittee reviewing a grade appeal. Debbie Bell will draft additional text for the document outlining procedures for grade appeals which will be distributed to EAC members for consideration. In addition, accurate information will be added to the procedures related to student athletes and NCAA intended major requests. The entire document will be discussed again at the November Educational Affairs Committee.

Dr. DerVartanian asked the members to consider the impact Incomplete grades have on Hope Scholarship awards. Susan Little, Financial Aid Director explained Hope regulations and noted that when an Incomplete grade is changed, GA State Finance Committee regulations mandate that if the change results in the student losing HOPE eligibility, money awarded subsequent to the semester in which the incomplete grade was assigned must be re-paid. On the other hand, should a student's change of grade affect the student's GPA to make him/her eligible for HOPE, money is retroactively awarded. It was agreed that students should be regularly informed of the retroactive effect of an incomplete, and that this should be posted prominently on the web site for that office.

Time ran out before agenda items related to Academic Renewal and Dean Hugh Ruppersburg's request for EAC review of a professor's authority to drop a student from a class could be discussed. These two items will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee will be Tuesday, November 1 at 10:45 a.m. in Room 144 Tate Center.