Educational Affairs Committee - Minutes

February 6, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.
New College – Room 315

Members Present: Rodney Mauricio (Chair), Audrey Haynes, Branson Ritchie, James Reap, Francis Assaf, Elena Karahanna, Laura Jolly, Peggy Kreshel

Others: Debbie Bell (OVPI), Maggie Kerins (OVPI), Fiona Liken (OVPI), Jan Hathcote (Registrar), Jason Emond (Admissions), Ginny Jones (OVPI)

Dr. Rodney Mauricio called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and the January 11, 2012 minutes were approved.

Academic Calendar: Dr. Hathcote presented the edits to the 2013-2014 Academic Calendar. By condensing Orientation and Advisement into one day, the calendar shifted for classes to begin on a Monday for both fall and spring semesters. The EAC strongly urges the Registrar to consider ways to ensure that spring semester begins on a Monday. The Committee voted to approve the proposal and it will be forwarded to Executive Committee.

Petitions Subcommittee Update: Dr. Mauricio gave the Committee an update on February’s petitions—12 appeals were reviewed, 8 were approved, 2 were denied, and 2 were tabled. The Committee addressed three issues that arose in the petitions meeting. (1) After a brief discussion about the Course Deletions policy, the Committee agreed that all course deletion requests must be reviewed at the college level before reaching the EAC. (2) Because of a number of credit to audit appeals from graduate students, the Committee voted to allow the Graduate School to approve these requests in cases where the student mistakenly registered for credit while intending to audit. A memo will be sent to the Graduate School and the Registrar outlining this new process. (3) Two Independent and Distance Learning (IDL) appeals were tabled at the February Petitions Subcommittee meeting because of a lack of approved IDL guidelines consistent with University policies. Dr. Jolly will bring the IDL policies to EAC at our next meeting for discussion and a vote. Pending IDL appeals will be considered once these policies are approved through university governance.

Student Advising Statement: After a discussion, the Committee tabled further revision of the advising statement to wait for further feedback from the advising community. The Office of the Vice President for Instruction will explore other venues (DegreeWorks) to let students know that they are ultimately responsible for knowing their degree requirements and to be prepared for advising appointments. Concerns were expressed about the inclusion of the word “mandatory” to describe advising (clearing versus advising) as well as the role of the Academic Advising Coordinating Council in university governance. The revised Advising Statement will be reviewed at the April EAC meeting.

Reinstatement Policy: Dr. Jan Hathcote presented the revised administrative policy regarding reinstatement after a student is dropped for nonpayment as an information item. Under the new policy, students cannot attend classes if they have been dropped for nonpayment and students cannot appeal to be reinstated. The policy becomes effective fall 2012 and will be forwarded to the Executive Committee by Dr. Hathcote.

Student and Financial Aid System Transformation Project: Dr. Laura Jolly presented the implementation plan for SunGuard Higher Ed Banner, UGA’s new integrated student information system. Implementation begins this year and will last until June 2015. Dr. Jolly will address the Committee again in the future to ask for feedback as future users of the system.
The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Kerr

Office of the Vice President for Instruction