



The University of Georgia

University Council
Athens, Georgia 30602

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – 2015-2016

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 – Dr. Jeong-Yeob Han
Public and International Affairs – Dr. Andy Owsiak
Veterinary Medicine – Dr. Shannon Holmes, absent
(also representing Pharmacy, Law, and Engineering)
Provost's Representative – Dr. Rahul Shrivastav
Undergraduate Student Representative – Mr. Houston Gaines
Graduate/Professional Student Representative – Ms. Audrey Lewis

Guests: Dr. Russell Mumper Ms. Judy Iakovou
Dr. Jan Hathcote Mr. Lee Shearer
Ms. Debbie Bell Ms. Katelyn Umholtz

The Educational Affairs Committee met on August 24, 2015, at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes of the March 16, 2015, meeting were approved.

The meeting opened with introductions, and Dr. Mauricio announced this would be his last year as chair of the committee.

Dr. Mauricio updated the committee on the results of the five Petition Subcommittee meetings held since the last Educational Affairs Committee meeting. On March 30, 2015, 32 appeals were reviewed, 20 were approved, 11 were denied, and 1 was tabled. On April 27, 2015, 35 appeals were reviewed, 15 were approved, and 20 were denied. On May 18, 2015, 24 appeals were reviewed, 14 were approved, and 10 were denied. On July 21, 2015, 78 appeals were reviewed, 41 were approved, and 37 were denied. On August 24, 2015, 34 appeals were reviewed, 19 were approved, and 15 were denied.

The committee actively discussed how to streamline the appeals process in order to make the process more transparent for students as well as easier to adjudicate. The committee is particularly concerned about a significant increase in the number of requests for retroactive hardship withdrawals. In 2013, the

Committee on Facilities, Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, Committee on Statutes, Bylaws, and Committees, Committee on Student Affairs, Curriculum Committee, Educational Affairs Committee, Executive Committee, Faculty Admissions Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Post-Tenure Review Appeals Committee, Faculty/Staff Parking Appeals Committee, Human Resources Committee, Program Review and Assessment Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, University Libraries Committee, University Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee

Petitions Subcommittee considered 84 such requests, (increasing more than 50% to 132 last year). The subcommittee is on a pace to review more than that this year (121 with 3 months to go). The committee discussed whether to provide a deadline for appeals, much like the current policy for grade appeals which are limited to one year and will continue the discussion at the next committee meeting. The committee reached a consensus that appeals due to registration holds should be removed from the purview of the Petitions Subcommittee.

The committee was made aware of a revision to the Board of Regents Academic Renewal Policy will draft a proposal to revise UGA's policy to be in agreement with the revised Board of Regents policy.

The Registrar announced that her office is working on an electronic grade change process which should be ready by December.

The Registrar updated the committee on the remaining NG grades. These grades affect financial aid and prevent students from graduating. The Registrar has contacted department heads to assist in resolving the remaining 18 NG grades from fall semester, 2014. As of August 24, 77 NG grades remain for spring semester 2015, and over 1400 NG grades remain for summer semester 2015. The Registrar added that the Board of Regents policy states faculty are responsible for assigning grades.

The committee considered a revision to the 2015-2016 Academic Calendar. The Registrar requested the date that grades are due in spring semester 2016 be changed from May 16, 2016, to May 15, 2016. Currently, the date is the same as the first day of classes for May Session and Extended Summer Session. The committee approved the proposal to revise the 2015-2016 Academic Calendar.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Rodney Mauricio
Chair, Educational Affairs Committee