



The University of Georgia

Office of the Vice President for Instruction

Educational Affairs Committee - Minutes

February 8, 2017 – 3:30 p.m.

New College – Room 315

Members Present: Jean Williams-Woodward (Chair), Henry Munneke (proxy for Biesecker), Mark Farmer, Jeong-Yeob Han, Steven Lewis, Andy Owsiak, Marisa Pagnattaro, Rahul Shrivastav, David Spooner, Houston Gaines (proxy for Fucetola), Betsy Miller-Newman (proxy for Fallaize)

Others: Fiona Liken (OVPI), William Vencill (OVPI), Sara Wood (OVPI), Rosemary Segreti (Interim Registrar), Adam Lawrence (Office of the Registrar), Michael Snell (GPSA), Lee Shearer (Athens Banner-Herald)

Dr. Jean Williams-Woodward called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. The January 18, 2017 minutes were approved.

Dr. Williams-Woodward reported that since the last meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee, the Petitions Subcommittee reviewed 18 student appeals, approving 12 and denying 6. The chair asked for members to sign up for upcoming Subcommittee meetings.

Dr. Williams-Woodward announced that the proposed amendments to the spring/summer 2018 calendar were approved by the Executive Committee; however, subsequent information provided by the City of Athens, prevented movement of spring commencement to May 11, 2018. The Chair explained that following the Executive Committee meeting held on February 1, 2017, the City of Athens raised concerns to the President regarding major conflicts with the proposed modification to move spring 2018 commencement to May 11 due to several conferences already scheduled during the surrounding timeframe.

The conclusion is that the spring/summer 2018 calendar amendments will not be presented to the University Council and the currently approved version will remain in place. Dr. Williams-Woodward reported that the University Council approved the fall 2017 academic calendar proposal at its' November 2016 meeting.

Academic Calendar: The Committee continued discussion from previous meetings related to how the federal and institutional requirements along with the number of summer sessions pose as a barrier in attempting to make adjustments to the academic calendar.

The Committee reviewed 2018-2019 calendars along with summer registration data provided to them by the Office of the Registrar. Concerns were raised about the possible impacts that removing Maymester could cause including internships, lower enrollment numbers, a reduction in revenue for the University, budgetary concerns for schools and colleges.

The chair addressed the fact that the academic calendar must be approved two years in advance and April is the final University Council meeting; thus, it is imperative to propose a calendar. Further suggestions were presented related to possible adjustments to the summer session. The Committee was encouraged to develop several models for summer terms to be reviewed and presented at a future Executive Committee meeting.

After lengthy discussion related to the obstacles in making any adjustments to the spring and summer 2019 calendar, a motion was made to vote on the calendar as it has been presented. A majority of the Committee voted to approve and submit the present version of the spring and summer 2019 calendar to the Executive Committee.

The Committee briefly discussed whether the calendar should be faculty governed or if it should be governed by the administration.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. Due to a change of date for the University Council meeting, the next meeting of the Educational Affairs Committee has been changed to March 29, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jean W. Woodward". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "J".

Jean Williams-Woodward
Chair, Educational Affairs Committee