



Educational Affairs Committee - Minutes

September 14, 2011 – 1:30 p.m.
New College – Room 315

Members Present: Rodney Mauricio (Chair), Branson Ritchie, Francis Assaf, James Reap, Laura Jolly, Joan Fischer, Robert Moser, Elena Karahanna, Peggy Kreshel, Hongyu Zhang, Kari Turner

Others: Fiona Liken (OVPI), Maggie Kerins (OVPI), Jason Emond (Admissions), Kathryn Ingall (Red & Black), Celeste Greene (ECHD 7090), Georgina Nembhard (ECHD 7090), and Nancy Thompson (IDL)

Dr. Rodney Mauricio called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., and the August 15, 2011 minutes were approved. Dr. Joan Fischer agreed to serve as the Educational Affairs Committee representative on the Housing Appeals Committee.

Course Challenging Policy: The Committee analyzed the various additions to the policy such as the qualifications students must meet to challenge a course. A discussion followed about the implications of prohibiting students who have withdrawn from the course or who previously completed the course at another institution. The committee decided that both limitations should be included in the policy to prohibit students from enrolling in the course, then withdrawing with the purpose of challenging the course for resident credit. A sentence was added to direct students to the online Course Challenging form on the Office of the Registrar's website. With that addition, the policy was approved unanimously and will move forward to the University Council Executive Committee for consideration.

Independent and Distance Learning: Dr. Nancy Thompson addressed the Committee and gave an overview of Independence and Distance Learning (IDL) at UGA, as well as information about changes currently underway at IDL. She provided the committee a copy of the current operational procedures and guidelines, as well as IDL policies that were discontinued as of August 2010. The current operational procedures and guidelines are under review, and any policy changes will come to EAC this academic year. Dr. Mauricio explained that, although the Committee understands the issues associated with an overhaul of new procedures and guidelines, he hopes the same appeals – largely resulting from IDL instructors granting extensions that are not permitted in the new guidelines—will not continue to reach EAC.

Petitions Subcommittee Appeals: Dr. Mauricio updated the Committee on the results of the two Petitions Subcommittee meetings held since the last EAC meeting. In August, 5 appeals were reviewed and 5 were approved. In September, 17 appeals were reviewed, 15 were approved, 1 was denied, and 1 was tabled until a later meeting. Dr. Mauricio explained several circumstances that he felt merited a letter alerting various offices and individuals to the problems and issues revealed by student petitions. The committee voted to approve the drafting of those letters and Dr. Mauricio will email draft letters to EAC members for final approval.

The meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Office of the Vice President for Instruction