

University Council Athens, Georgia 30602

## EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - 2012-2013

Dr. Rodney Mauricio, Arts and Sciences (Sciences), Chair Agricultural and Environmental Sciences - Dr. Kari Turner (also representing Forestry and Natural Resources) Arts and Sciences - Dr. Francis Assaf (Arts), absent Dr. Robert Moser (Arts)

Business – Dr. Elena Karahanna
Education – Dr. Gayle Andrews, absent
Environment and Design – Dr. James Reap
(also representing Public Health, Social Work, and Ecology)
Family and Consumer Sciences - Dr. Joan Fischer
Journalism and Mass Communication - Mr. David Hazinski
Public and International Affairs - Dr. Audrey Haynes, absent
Veterinary Medicine – Dr. Branson Ritchie
(also representing Pharmacy and Law)
Provost's Representative – Dr. Laura Jolly
Undergraduate Student Representative – Ms. Polly Turrentine
Graduate/Professional Student Representative – Mr. Jacob Holloway

## Guests:

Dr. Eileen Kraemer, Dr. Alan Campbell, Dr. Jan Hathcote

Dr. Rodney Mauricio called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m., and the April 4, 2012, minutes were approved.

Dr. Mauricio updated the Committee on the results of the four Petitions Subcommittee meetings held since the last Educational Affairs Committee meeting. On April 30, 2012, 25 appeals were reviewed, 14 were approved and 11 denied. On July 11, 2012, 28 appeals were reviewed, 16 were approved, 10 were denied, and 2 were tabled until a later meeting. On August 7, 2012, 14 appeals were reviewed, 11 were approved and 3 were denied. On September 13, 2012, 13 appeals were reviewed, 9 were approved, 3 were denied, and 1 was tabled until a later meeting.

Dr. Mauricio thanked the committee members for serving on the Petitions Subcommittee during the summer and gave a brief background of the Committee's duties and responsibilities. Dr. Mauricio thanked Joan Fisher for agreeing to continue serving as the Educational Affairs Committee representative on the Housing Appeals Committee.

The committee discussed the withdrawal policy. Dr. Alan Campbell addressed the Committee on several issues related to hardship withdrawals and the concern with students who request a hardship withdrawal after the semester has ended and grades have been assigned. Dr. Campbell also discussed the issue of students who may need exceptions to the policy and permission to have more than four WPs. The committee reaffirmed that any appeals of the withdrawal policy must be directed to the Educational Affairs Committee. The policy as written allows the Office of the Vice

Executive Committee, Benefits Committee, Committee on Facilities, Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, Committee on Statutes, Bylaws, and Committees, Committee on Student Affairs, Curriculum Committee, Educational Affairs Committee, Faculty Admissions Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Faculty Operational Affairs Committee, Faculty Post-Tenure Review Appeals Committee, Faculty/Staff Parking Appeals Committee, Strategic Planning Committee, University Libraries Committee, University Promotion and Tenure Appeals Committee An Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Institution

President for Student Affairs (OVPSA) to grant hardship withdrawals from courses for which a student is registered for that term only. Hardship withdrawals cannot ordinarily be used to withdraw selectively from some courses while remaining enrolled in other courses: selective withdrawals are permitted only under exceptional circumstances. Even in cases of approved hardship, the instructor has the responsibility to assign a grade of WP or WF. The committee also reaffirmed that hardship withdrawal appeals can be submitted after the semester in question. However, the OPVPSA is not allowed to grant hardship withdrawals once grades have been assigned; all such appeals must be made to the Educational Affairs Committee.

Dr. Eileen Kraemer discussed the implementation of the withdrawal policy. The committee reaffirmed that a request for a change of grade from WF to WP submitted prior to the deadline for withdrawals could be submitted through the regular grade change process and would not involve EAC. If a student submits a withdrawal request after the withdrawal deadline, the instructor must assign a grade of WF. If that grade is assigned after the withdrawal deadline, any request to change a grade from WF to WP will be considered an appeal of university policy and that appeal must be directed to the Educational Affairs Committee. The faculty member may provide a letter of support and recommendations of the College are solicited.

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted.

Rodney Mauricio

Chair, Educational Affairs Committee