

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, proxy

Dr. Robert Moser (Arts)

Business – Dr. Elena Karahanna Education – Dr. Gayle Andrews

Environment and Design - Mr. 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, absent

(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. Jan Hathcote and Ms. Debbie Bell

The Educational Affairs Committee met on February 11, 2013, at 3:05 p.m.

Minutes of the November 12, 2012, meeting will be sent electronically by email to the committee for a vote.

Dr. Rodney Mauricio updated the committee on the results of the three Petitions Subcommittee meetings held since the last Educational Affairs Committee meeting. On December 3, 2012, 20 appeals were reviewed, 16 were approved and 4 denied. On January 14, 2013, 24 appeals were reviewed, 17 were approved, 7 were denied. On February 11, 2013, 20 appeals were reviewed, 9 were approved, 10 denied, and 1 was tabled until more information can be obtained from the department.

Members were asked to serve on summer Petition Subcommittees. Dr. Robert Moser agreed to chair the May 2013 subcommittee meeting, and Dr. Elena Karahanna agreed to serve on the subcommittee. A third member will be added at a later date. Dr. Gail Andrews agreed to chair the June 2013 subcommittee meeting, and Mr. James Reap and Dr. Kari Turner agreed to serve on the subcommittee. Dr. Karahanna agreed to chair the July 2013 meeting, and Mr. Reap and Dr. Turner agreed to serve on the subcommittee. The dates for the summer Petitions Subcommittee meetings will be decided by those serving on the subcommittees.

The committee will hold an election for chair at the April 29, 2013, meeting.

The committee briefly discussed students' confusion over the withdrawal process. Jan Hathcote confirmed that students receive an email which shows the withdrawal on their updated class schedule after students initiate a withdrawal.

The committee briefly discussed an expected temporary increase in student appeals for extensions of incompletes due to the change in the Franklin College process. Only two appeals have been seen since the change; however, this number is expected to increase significantly in the short run. The committee discussed the varied interpretations of the policy for assigning incompletes, specifically the understanding of substantial progress in the course. Dr. Jolly suggested she could send an email to the Deans and Department Heads listserv near the end of the semester reminding professors of the criteria for assigning incompletes.

The 2011-2012 Academic Honesty Annual Report was distributed as an information item. Debbie Bell answered questions from the committee regarding how the report compares to reports from previous years and how the Academic Honesty Office educates the University community about the policy.

The committee approved the proposed 2014-2015 Academic Calendar. The committee discussed the calendar and the possibility of changes within the limits of the Board of Regents policy. The committee asked the Registrar to provide information about calendars for peer and aspirant schools. The committee also discussed changing the drop/add dates for undergraduate and graduate registration to extend drop registration by one day, which would eliminate the "add only" registration day. Currently, the Registrar's Office assists a large number of students each semester who are confused about additional day to add only and mistakenly try to adjust their schedules after drop registration ends. Because Federal and state laws regarding financial aid have changed, the reasons for having a separate day for students to only add classes are no longer an issue. Dr. Mauricio asked that a proposal to change the drop/add dates be drafted before the next meeting.

The committee briefly discussed Georgia State University's recent decisions regarding massive open online courses. Georgia State University's decision will not have an impact on the University of Georgia. Dr. Jolly announced that a panel discussion about these courses will be held in the Dogwood Room of the Georgia Center for Continuing Education on February 27, 2013, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Panelists will include professors from Emory University, Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Georgia.

The committee continued a discussion from the November 12, 2012, committee meeting about the rise in the percentage of students receiving honors at graduation over the past several years. A subcommittee will be assembled to further review the honors data.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

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Rodney Mauricio

Chair, Educational Affairs Committee