

**ACADEMIC STANDING COMMITTEE
FINAL REPORT: 2011-2012**

The college's administration mandated significant changes in the way that the Academic Standing Committee conducted its business this year. In prior years, appeals were read and acted on by the Academic Standing Committee that had read during the preceding academic year. However, the administration required the Committee on Committees to meet and form a new Academic Standing committee to read and act on student appeals during the summer of 2011. While there are advantages to this procedure, it is unfortunate that the new procedure was adopted by administrative fiat rather than an action of the Senate.

During the summer, the committee elected a summer coordinator to supervise the reading of appeals. The procedure for reading was also mandated by the administration in several letters from VP Diaz. According to these letters, the new procedures were put in place for reasons of the confidentiality of student information on the appeals and the need for controls over the working hours of members of the committee who are paid (not all committee members are paid since CLT's and members of the Department of Student Life are not on annual leave during the summer.) The committee read and acted on approximately 1000 student appeals during the summer.

The committee elected officers at its September meeting: Glenn Miller was elected as chair, Jenna Hirsch as secretary, and Owen Meyers as our representative to the Executive Committee.

During the academic year the committee read and acted on approximately 900 appeals. The following statistics are for the committee's activities from July 2011 to May 2012 as per the Registrars office data:

Type of appeal:	Total	Approved	Denied
		235	174
Grade change and/or retroactive withdrawal	409	(57.5%)	(42.5%)
Re-instatement on special probation after academic dismissal	1202	906	296
		161	102
Financial aid (TAP or Title IV waiver)	263	(61.2%)	(38.8%)
		1302	572
Totals:	1874	(69.5%)	(30.5%)

Other than reading and acting on appeals, the committee discussed several issues during the year. These discussions did not lead to action items for the Academic Senate, but might be useful for future committees. These topics included:

- The drafting of a Procedures Manual for the committee so that the committee can mandate how it will handle appeals rather than being given orders by administrators
- Re-writing the language in the catalog regarding appeals for retroactive withdrawals to specify time limits and possible cases that would merit exceptions
- Ensuring that appeals are not altered by registrars office staff (ie workers writing on appeals)

The members of this committee:

Beryl Duncan-Wilson
Jenna Hirsch
Nadarajah Kirupaharan
Peter Nguyen
Alicia Perdomo
Pedro Perez
Rochelle Rives (out on leave)
Owen Meyers
Philip Wander (has left the college)
Igor Zaitsev

have worked tirelessly on students' appeals. Without their talents, diligent efforts, and dedicated service, our students would not have had the benefit of knowing the outcomes of their appeals.

The registrars office (Evelyn Humphreys and Greg Wist in particular) has provided an outstanding level of service to assist the committee's work. All of the committee's requests were met immediately and beyond our expectations.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Miller, Chair