

Student Regulations Committee

**Academic Faculty Senate
Tuesday, April 21, 2015
3:00-5:00 PM
Student Center Theatre**

Action Items and Minutes

Presented by:

Dr. Al Ferri, ME, Chair, Student
Regulations Committee

Action Items

From the January 14 Minutes:

*There were no action items generated
at this meeting.*

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Background:

New Sexual Misconduct Policy and Related Changes to the Student Code of Conduct

- The Georgia Institute of Technology Student Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy was a good policy but it addressed one population, students.
- The Tech administration realized it needed one policy that addressed all of the populations on campus, students, faculty staff, affiliates, contractors, etc. Violations among the different populations would be handled differently, clearly, but having one policy was the best practice and is in line with Tech's overall philosophy. This has been drafted and is going through the GT Policy Library process.
- The U.S. Department of Education made changes to the Title IX law and since we are a recipient of federal funding, we have to comply. We are, by definition, a "contractor" of the U.S. Department of Education by virtue of the fact that we receive federal funds.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Background:

New Sexual Misconduct Policy and Related Changes to the Student Code of Conduct

- There was no need for the Committee to vote on the change to the Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy. Rather, the administration sought the Committee's endorsement.
- Changes to the Student Code of Conduct now reference and reflect the existence of Georgia Tech's new Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy.
- No other changes were made in the Student Code of Conduct. The changes to the Student Code of Conduct will require a vote.
- **The Student Regulations Committee voted to *endorse* the development of the Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy. There is now ONE policy that applies to the whole campus, not just to students.**

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval:

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section A, 2.

“First Considered Sanction” means that, in cases alleging a violation of the Institute’s Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Student Conduct Administrator or Appellate Officer(s) must consider this sanction prior to any other sanction(s). If it is decided that a First Considered Sanction is not appropriate, a rationale must be provided in the written outcome identifying why another sanction(s) was implemented.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval:

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section A, 2.

“Interim Protective Measures” are accommodations or changes to a student’s academic, living, or work environment before the final outcome of an investigation to ensure equal access to the Institute’s education and employment programs and activities, and to protect an alleged victim, as necessary. Interim protective measures may be available whether or not formal resolution is used. Interim measures may continue past the duration of an investigation as deemed appropriate by the Institute. Interim protective measures may include (but are not limited to): an order not to contact (an) individual(s), victim advocacy, housing assistance or relocation, counseling, health services, safety resources, academic support, changes in a person’s work or study location or schedule, and alterations to financial aid.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language
Added, Section C, 20.

20. Violation of the Georgia Institute of Technology **Student** Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- a. **To have the allegations heard and determined by the Student Conduct Administrator and not by a student conduct panel;**
- b. **to have an equal opportunity to present witnesses and other evidence;**

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- c. to have the investigation, resolution, and appeal process carried out by those who have received annual training on issues related to intimate partner and dating violence, sexual assault, sexual harassment, and stalking, and how to conduct a sexual misconduct investigation, resolution, and appeal process that protects the safety of victims, maintains fairness and impartiality for the Accused, and promotes student accountability;

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- d. to be informed of the date and location of any meetings involved in the investigation and resolution process;
- e. to receive information or updates at any point throughout the investigation and resolution process;
- f. to be informed in writing of any policies alleged to have been violated in association with the charges;

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- g. to have the opportunity to provide information regarding his or her involvement in the allegation;
- h. to be informed of the outcome in writing of any campus disciplinary proceeding;
- i. to be notified of options regarding Interim Protective Measures;

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- j. to receive meaningful support services;
- k. to not have mediation imposed as a resolution process;
- l. to appeal the outcome in accordance with Section G: Appeals Procedures;

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section D, 8.

8. Special Considerations for Cases Involving Sexual Misconduct

Notwithstanding any of the above procedures, if the Accused is alleged to have violated the Institute's Sexual Harassment & Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have the right:

- m. to not be cross-examined by the other party to the proceeding (though questions may be forwarded to the Student Conduct Administrator by either party for presentation to the other);
- n. to not have evidence about prior sexual conduct with anyone other than the other party to the proceeding introduced as evidence; and
- o. to be informed in writing of any change to the outcome due to appeal, and when the outcome becomes final.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section E, 3.

3. Sanctions for Sexual Misconduct

If the Accused is found responsible for any of the following policy violations, the Student Conduct Administrator or Appellate Committee must consider the First Considered Sanction(s) prior to any other sanction(s). If it is decided that a First Considered Sanction is not appropriate, a rationale must be provided in the written outcome identifying why another sanction(s) was implemented.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Requires Approval

Changes to the Student Code of Conduct – New Language Added, Section G, 2.

In cases involving alleged violations of the Institute's Sexual Harassment and Misconduct Policy, the Accused and the alleged victim shall have equal right to appeal the finding or the sanctions imposed, or both.

Action Items

From the March 11 Minutes:

Policy Change that Requires Approval

Tentative honors regulation in the Catalog:

III. Undergraduate Degrees

E. Graduation with Academic Distinction

4. Tentative honors at graduation are determined by the grade point average entering the graduating term and the sum total of graded hours accumulated prior to the graduation term plus graded hours registered for and pending during the graduation term. (Changed from: Tentative honors at graduation are determined by the grade point average and number of hours accumulated entering the graduating term. In order for students to receive honor cords for the commencement ceremony, they must qualify for honors according to the requirements before entering their final term.)

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

Changes to the Academic Calendar – Recommendations of the Task Force

1. For each standard semester (fall, spring, and full summer), the current “dead week” will be replaced by two “Final Instructional Class Days” on Monday and Tuesday followed by a Reading Period which exams wrapped around the weekend. Final Exams will begin on Thursday, in the late afternoon, and will continue through the following Thursday. **(Requires approval on policy change – we’ll get to that shortly.)**
2. No final exams (except for conflict periods) will be scheduled on Friday before commencement. **(Requires approval on policy change – we’ll get to that shortly.)**

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

Changes to the Academic Calendar – Recommendations of the Task Force

3. Two additional class holidays will be incorporated into the calendar. These include the Wednesday before Thanksgiving in the fall semester and the day before or after the July 4 holiday in the summer semester (depending on what day of the week the holiday falls; the exact day will be determined by the Registrar). Upon implementation of Recommendation #5, additional class holidays may be added. **(Requires approval, no explicit policy change required, see II Academic Calendar, A. Standard Calendar.)**

4. Spring Semester classes will not begin earlier than the second Monday of January. **(Requires approval; no explicit policy change, Registrar can make the adjustment.)**

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

Changes to the Academic Calendar – This item was approved “in principle” so that a task force could be formed to explore the details and operational possibilities.

5. The daily class schedule will be re-designed as follows:

- In fall and spring semesters, classes meeting three times per week (e.g., MWF) will be 55 minutes and those meeting two times per week (e.g., TR or MW) will be 80 minutes. Breaks between classes will be 15 minutes.
- In the full (11-week) summer semester, classes meeting three times per week will be 75 minutes and those meeting two times per week will be 110 minutes. Breaks between classes will be 15 minutes.
- The two short (5-week) summer sessions will be reviewed in more detail to determine how they would operate differently, if possible.

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

Changes to the Academic Calendar – Policy Changes that Require Approval

XII. Examinations

C. *Dead Week (Week Preceding Final Examinations)*

...would be replaced with...

XII. Examinations

C. Final Instructional Class Days and Reading Periods.

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

Changes to the Academic Calendar – Policy Change that Requires Approval

XII. Examinations

D. Regulations Covering Final Examinations

...change in language is that final exam week would start on Thursday, not Monday.

Action Items

From the April 1 Minutes:

New Code of Conduct Provision – Policy Change that Requires a Vote

Proposed New Code of Conduct Provision

23. Discriminatory conduct including

a) objectively offensive conduct directed at a particular person or persons based upon that person or persons' race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or any class protected by law that creates a hostile environment or that results in excluding participation in, or denies the benefits of any educational program or working opportunity for that person or persons.

b) Verbal or written threats, coercion or any other conduct that is based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran status, or any class protected by law, that by design, intent or recklessness incites reasonable fear of physical harm or otherwise unreasonably interferes with another's ability or opportunity to participate in work, education, research, living, or other activities.

Action Items and Minutes

- Move to approve all action items.
- Move to approve Minutes from:
 - January 14, 2015
 - March 11, 2015
 - April 1, 2015