

Georgia Institute of Technology
Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee
Agenda
April 26, 2017

Members:

Name	Term	Affiliation
Balachander, Sathya	[15-16]	Graduate Student
Bradley, Marguerite	[15-17]	Undergraduate Student
Cottle, Mark #		Architecture, Faculty Executive Board Liaison
Conte, Tom	[14-17]	Computer Science
Francis, Leanne	[16-17]	Undergraduate Student
Healy, Nancy	[16-17]	MIRC
Kohn, Paul #		Vice Provost, Enrollment Services
Mulford, Charles	[13-16]	Business
Perez, Ruperto M. #		Director, Counseling Center
Pikowsky, Reta		Registrar
Pollock, Anne	[14-17]	Literature, Media, and Communication
Poproski, Ruth*	[15-18]	Center for Teaching & Learning
Stephens, Christopher #		Registrar's Office

- Non-voting/standing guest member
† - Secretary
* Chair
Quorum: 5 voting members

Attendance: Sat Balachander, Marguerite Bradley, Mark Cottle, Leanne Francis, Charles Mulford, Reta Pikowsky, Anne Pollock, Ruth Poproski, Chris Stephens

1. Approval of Agenda

- a. Approved by consensus

2. Appointment of member to take minutes

- a. Leanne Francis appointed to take minutes

3. Update on SAFAC's recommended policy change [Reta]

Recall: we sent a policy change recommendation to the student regulations committee, clarifying responsibilities of Faculty, Students, and Group/Event Sponsors, when requesting an institute-approved absence.

- Policy recommendation has been made and approved without changes. It will be incorporated into the GT catalogue.

4. Discussion:

a. Athletic teams requesting absence approval for day before home game

- What is/is not appropriate?

- How early do they need to prepare for the game on the same day?
What is done before the game during the day?
 - Typically it varies by sport
- If they are given half days and take 80% of the day off there needs to be acknowledgement of that extra time being taken off and the impact on the student's work and time that they have missed both in and out of the classroom.
- There should be some efforts made to minimize class impact.
- What is the definition of a half day? Before noon? After noon?
- Looking to define half days based on the new class schedule grid when the classes end (12:05-mid day break MWF).
- Reta Pikowsky: Look at what each sport has for their requests. Ask per sport and how they do their requests. Specifically for home events. Next step would be to reach out to why they are missing the days and what they are doing with that time.
- Non-athletes: times will be requested for Institute approved absences
- Definition of Half-day set by the Registrar for Athletic requests defined as follows:
 - Morning half day: classes that start before noon
 - Afternoon half day: classes that start after noon
 - *Labs: 11-2 should be excused if have the excuse for afternoon half day
 - Motion made by Leanne Francis to accept above definition
 - Second by Anne Pollock
 - Motion passes unanimously
- **Action Item:** Registrar's office will ask each team/sport about their approach to home game absence requests, focusing on amount of time missed and the rationale behind the requests.

b. How should absences be counted – full vs. half day, etc.

- See above discussion

c. Other Academic/Financial Affairs issues for discussion?

- Earlier this year Ruth discussed adding a question to the Exit Survey with the Office of Assessment (following up on earlier SAFAC discussions). She has checked in with Joe Ludlum, from the Office of Assessment, but has not yet received an update as to whether the question has in fact been added.

5. Other business

Meeting adjourned