MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeanne Balsam, Secretary of the Faculty

DATE: September 16, 2015

SUBJECT: Report of the Student Grievance & Appeals Committee (SGAC) for 2014-15

The members of the Student Grievance & Appeals Committee for 2014-15 were:

  Arnie Schneider, Chair (Scheller College of Business)
  Elliot Moore (ECE)
  Jeannette Yen (Biology)
  Laura Margaret Burbach (replaced Macie Whatley) (Undergraduate student rep)
  Matt Kinsey (Graduate student rep)
  Michael Gamble, Executive Board Liaison (CoA)

The members for 2015-16 are:

  Elliot Moore, Chair (ECE)
  Jeannette Yen (Biology)
  Wendy Kelly (Chemistry)
  Laura Margaret Burbach (Undergraduate student rep)
  Thomas Gable (Graduate student rep)
  Erica Briscoe, Executive Board Liaison (CoA)

The Student Grievance & Appeals Committee received one appeal request during the 2014-15 academic year. A student in the Scheller College of Business appealed a grade and the SGAC voted to reject the appeal without conducting a hearing due to lack of sufficient justification.

The other activity of the SGAC during the year was to appoint volunteers to serve as outside members for school-level appeal committees. This task was performed four times by the chair, as no input was necessary from other SGAC members. The four cases are described below:

1) A student appealed a grade received in a Professional Education course. Leo Mark, Associate Dean of Academic & Student Affairs, created the school-level committee. The SGAC chair appointed David Sluss of the Scheller College of Business as the outside member of the school-level committee. This committee found in favor of the student, so the student’s original grade was changed.
2) A student appealed a grade received in a School of Architecture course. Scott Marble, Chair of the School of Architecture, created the school-level committee. The SGAC chair appointed Annamaria Conti of the Scheller College of Business as the outside member of the school-level committee. This committee found in favor of the faculty member, so the student’s original grade was not changed.

3) A student appealed a grade received in a Scheller College of Business course. Saby Mitra, Senior Associate Dean of Programs at Scheller, created the college-level committee. The SGAC chair appointed David Goldsman of the School of Industrial & Systems Engineering as the outside member of the college-level committee. This committee found in favor of the faculty member, so the student’s original grade was not changed.

4) A student appealed a grade received in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering course. Carson Meredith, Associate Chair of the School of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering, created the school-level committee. The SGAC chair appointed Jennifer Marr of the Scheller College of Business as the outside member of the school-level committee. This committee found in favor of the student, so the student’s original grade was changed.