

### **Student Fairness Committee**

**Chair:** Marty Froomin

**Chair Elect:** Matthew Masucci

**Number of meetings held:** 10

#### **SFC Business Completed 2010/2011**

The Student Fairness Committee (SFC) met 10 times during the 2010/2011 academic year (AY); 4 meetings in the fall semester and 6 meetings in the spring semester. The agendas and minutes summarizing the case dispositions are included with this report.

The number of students seeking assistance from the University Ombudsperson during AY 2010/2011 was 271. The SFC investigated 6 new cases and there was no case forwarded to BAFPR for investigation.

#### **Ombudsperson Cases by Month**

|           | <b>2010/2011</b> | <b>2009/2010</b> | <b>2008/2009</b> | <b>2007/2008</b> | <b>2006/2007</b> |
|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| July      | <b>54</b>        | 50               | 56               | 66               | 63               |
| August    | <b>90</b>        | 89               | 78               | 76               | 80               |
| September | <b>105</b>       | 120              | 103              | 88               | 93               |
| October   | <b>114</b>       | 146              | 141              | 117              | 118              |
| November  | <b>129</b>       | 169              | 158              | 141              | 156              |
| December  | <b>155</b>       | 195              | 187              | 156              | 189              |
| January   | <b>180</b>       | 216              | 228              | 183              | 210              |
| February  | <b>196</b>       | 256              | 258              | 198              | 237              |
| March     | <b>212</b>       | 280              | 277              | 232              | 267              |
| April     | <b>229</b>       | 315              | 306              | 239              | 290              |
| May       | <b>253</b>       | 345              | 342              | 283              | 320              |
| June      | <b>271</b>       | 374              | 379              | 313              | 346              |
| +/-       | <b>-38%</b>      | -1%              | +21%             | -10%             | -11%             |

#### **Student Fairness Cases**

|                  |          |
|------------------|----------|
| <b>2010/2011</b> | <b>6</b> |
| 2009/2010        | 7        |
| 2008/2009        | 10       |
| 2007/2008        | 6        |
| 2006/2007        | 3        |

**Student Fairness Case Detail**

- 0111-001      Grade Dispute/College of Social Science: Political Science**  
Found in favor of the student.  
SFC recommended that the student's grade be changed from a C- to a C since the greensheet did not indicate a plus and minus scale range, only whole grades.
- 0111-002      Grade Dispute/College of Social Science: History**  
Case was resolved informally in favor of the student after assignment to a subcommittee. Grade was changed from an F to a D-.
- 0111-004      Grade Dispute/College of Humanities and the Arts: English**  
Found in favor of the instructor regarding the grade.  
SFC recommended that the department consider placing more importance on in class essays versus out of class essays to help balance the weight of the assignments so it does not result in an automatic "F" in the course.
- 0111-005      Grade Dispute/College of Humanities and the Arts: English**  
Found in favor of the student.  
SFC recommended that the student be granted a retroactive withdrawal based on the fact that the student was not provided due process of a hearing and was removed from class without the basis for legitimate reason evidenced by the findings in the Student Conduct report.
- 0111-006      Grade Dispute/College of Humanities and the Arts: Music and Dance**  
Found in favor of the instructor regarding the grade.  
SFC recommends the course greensheet be modified removing all references to attendance in relation to *grading and indicate* how participation will be assessed should this be a part of the grading criteria.
- 0111-007      Grade Dispute /College of Engineering: Computer Engineering**  
Found in favor of the student.  
SFC recommended the student receive a retroactive withdrawal and a full refund for the course. SFC recommended that the instructor provide a grading rubric for both the syllabus and individual assignments that explains the point distribution and to provide timely, concise, and substantive feedback on student work when requested.

At the final meeting of the spring semester, the SFC elected Matthew Masucci, as the 2011/2012 Committee Chair.

2010/2011 Year-End Committee Report to the Academic Senate

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| <b>Unfinished Business Items for 2010/2011</b> |
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There are 4 issues pending with the Ombudsperson which may be assigned for investigation in Fall 2011.

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|-----------------------------------|
| <b>New Business for 2011/2012</b> |
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None.