

## Memorandum

**To:** Academic Senate

**Date:** June 18, 2009

**Filename:**

**From:** Craig V. Baltimore, Ph.D., S.E.  
Fairness Board Chair

**Copies:** none

**Subject:** FAIRNESS BOARD SPRING QUARTER 2009 REPORT

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- During the Spring quarter, The Fairness Board has not met in person, but has corresponded by e-mail.
- No hearings were held on student grievances.
- The Board ruled on student grievance had not merit and case was dismissed.
- Changes to the Board's Description and Procedure were approved by the Academic Senate.
- All but one case from the Winter quarter have been resolved or dismissed.
- Status of student contact. (the number system continues from Fall and Winter Quarter)

**5 - Grade Dispute**

The student tried to transfer to another university, but the transfer was denied by the current department. Student has indicated the desire to file a grievance. **Case held over until Fall 2009**

**8 – Grade Dispute**

Student made initial e-mail contact, but has not followed up. As of this date, there has been no additional

**9 – Grade Dispute**

Student met with Fairness Board Chair and discussed their situation. As of this date, there has been no additional contact with student. **Case dismissed.**

**10 – Grade Dispute**

Student was directed to resolve grade dispute at the department level. After trying to resolve a grade dispute at the department level, the student submitted a grievance to the Board in late Spring. **Grievance is still under consideration, as of this date.**

**11 – Grade Dispute**

Student made initial phone contact but has not followed up. **Case dismissed**

- Disposition of Charges for the Committee
  - Ongoing review of student grade grievances
    - The committee has been diligent in its charge
    - See summary reports for Fall 2008, Winter 2009, and Spring 2009
  - Resolution requiring mandatory attendance of student grievant at her/his hearing.
    - Resolution was submitted to Academic Senate in March 2009.
    - See Academic Senate minutes for status.
  - Review existing syllabus policy to develop ways for discouraging grievances . The Chair of the Fairness Board met with the Academic Senate President and discussed issue. It was noted that there is not a perfect solution and the current process is working with acceptable limits (nothing is perfect). It was also noted that creating a syllabus policy has the potential for a litigious environment. Currently the syllabus is a means of communication and not a legal document.
  - Resolution on cheating and plagiarism, clarify progress as written in last year's resolution. Current process with delineation of responsibility between Fairness Board and Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities is functioning well.
  - Resolution on Fairness Board Description & Procedures, work on clearer language to explain procedures and due process. To date, all students have not had questions. This issues that should be on going for self improvement.

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end