State of California



Memorandum

To:

Academic Senate

Date:

June 17, 2010

Filename:

From:

Craig V. Baltimore, Ph.D., S.E.

Copies:

None

Fairness Board Chair

Subject: FAIRNESS BOARD SPRING QUARTER 2010 REPORT

- During the Spring quarter, The Fairness Board corresponded by e-mail and met one time in person for a grievance hearing.
- The Fairness Board confirmed its conformance with Executive Order 1037 (new EO that superseded EO 320). The Board also noted to the Vice Provost for Programs and Planning that the yearend reporting date (June 1st) requested from the Chancellors Office did not appear to consider campuses on the quarter system. The Board requested that the yearend reporting date be changed to better accommodate campuses on the quarter system.
- The Fairness Board corresponded with the Orfalea College of Business and the role of the Board in regards to plagiarism and cheating.
- One hearing was held on a student grievance.
- One case from the Winter quarter have been held over and was resolved or dismissed.
- Student contact included (the numbering system continues from the previous quarters):

4. Grade Dispute (carried over from Winter quarter)

In addition to grade dispute, issues of cheating were involved. Case was determined by the OSRR. Case Closed.

8. Grade Dispute in regard to a blended programs requirement

A blended programs student who has graduate student status, but still has a few courses to take for undergraduate requirements, inquired to the apparent grey area of credit/no credit course and blended programs (combined undergraduate and graduate programs). The grey area is in regard to minimum grade necessary to obtain a grade of credit. For an undergraduate student the minimum grade is "C-", for a graduate student the minimum grade is "B-". What about the blended programs student who has graduate student standing, but is taking a course to meet the undergraduate requirements? Is the intent of the minimum grade for credit for the program (credit for an undergraduate degree versus credit for a graduate degree) or is the student standing (undergraduate status versus graduate status). To date the Office of the Registrar has interpreted the rule to be in regard to student standing. Student was advised to resolve at Dept. level. Student has not made contact to seek grievance. Case Closed

9. Grade Dispute

Student referred to the Fairness Board by the Dean of Students Office. Issue involved instructor replaced in middle of quarter. Student consulted with Fairness Board Chair. Issue resolved at the Department Level. **Case Closed**

Student contact (continued)

10. Referral from Dean of Students Office

Student did not make contact with the Fairness Board. Case Closed.

11. Grade Dispute and Hearing

Issue involved change to syllabus in middle of quarter. Student consulted with Fairness Board Chair. No resolution was obtained at Department level. Grievance was found to have merit. Hearing was held in June. The Board did not find in favor of the student and no recommendation was forwarded to the Provost. Case Closed.

12. Multiple Issues

Student sent grievance directly to Academic Senate, did not consult with Fairness Board Chair. Issue was not defined or apparent. Case referred to the Cal Poly Ombudsman. Case Closed.

13. Grade Dispute

Issue of change in agreed course requirements for a course conflict. Student consulted with Fairness Board Chair. Issue resolved at the Department Level. **Case Closed**

14. Grade Dispute

Issue of how a test was graded. Student consulted with Fairness Board Chair. No grievance has been received to date. **Case Closed**

15. Grade Dispute

Issue of missing a final for medical reasons. Student consulted with Fairness Board Chair. Issue resolved at the Department Level. **Case Closed**

16. Grade Dispute

Student made contact with the Board late in Spring quarter. Case carried over to Fall 2010

17. Grade Dispute

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Disposition of Charges for the Committee

- Ongoing review of student grade grievances
 - o The committee has been diligent in its charge
 - See summary reports for Fall 2009, Winter 2010, and Spring 2010

end