Academic Policies and Procedures Committee
September 6, 2005

Present:
Tim Chowns
Skip Clark
Muriel Cormican
Lucretia Gibbs
Jorge Gaytan
Betsy Griffies
Tim Hynes
Bobby Johnson
Blake Lord
Scott Lingrell
Katherine Moffeit
Elizabeth Morton
Joseph Sharp
Bonnie Stevens

Dr. Clark opened the AP & P meeting with an introduction of committee members for 2005-2006. Dr. Hynes suggested an agenda for committee meetings to work with faculty senate deadlines. Dr. Clark proposed the following dates for future AP & P meetings: September 20th, October 18th, and November 22nd. The VPAA’s office will take care of reserving the UCC Room 210. The spring meeting dates will be determined at the November meeting.

Agenda Item # 1-Statute (especially appeals)-general discussion in the committee decided that item was approved in the 2005 academic year.

Agenda Item #2-Honors Code and Academic Honesty- Dr. Hynes suggested ways we the committee could put the code into action. For example, do we want every student to sign a statement at orientation? This would make it harder for students to state that they did not know. Hynes suggested that the committee may want to review the catalog and student handbook to make sure information is consistent. Dr. Clark asked how faculty would be informed as well as the students. Hynes suggested that the committee may want to invite Dr. Clower for future discussions. Hynes noted, in the past that if a faculty member failed a student for dishonesty, the VPAA’s office should be contacted. Dr. Hynes also noted that plagiarism is a straight forward case. Cheating from another student’s paper could be debatable. Dr. Clark suggested inviting Dr. Clower to the 9-20-2005 meeting. Dr. Morton asked about a student tribunal. Hynes agreed that we do have this process; however the frequency of its use may not be as it should be. Dr. Hynes noted that he would love for us to be an institution striving toward institutional integrity. Dr. Hynes will bring examples of other institutional compacts to a future meeting.

Agenda Item # 3-Course Evaluation Process Review-Dr. Clark began, stating that there is a lot of discussion about current evaluation of courses. There has been dissatisfaction with the questions and their relevance to learning outcomes. Clark said that recent studies show that there is not a significant difference in evaluations in the 3rd week of classes vs
the end of the semester. Dr. Gaytan asked about differences between course and instructors evaluations and do we need a way to separate the two? Dr. Hynes suggested that the committee may want to invite the campus community to the October meeting. Dr. Hynes suggested this as an agenda item for the September meeting. We may want answer “How should we proceed and how do we get the campus community involved?”

**Agenda Item #4-** Academic Standing- Bonnie Stevens explained that it is possible for a student to be in good standing, but cannot graduate in a major that requires a higher GPA (2.5 or greater). Mass Communications was used as an example. Dr. Hynes explained that the Senate as a whole can approve changes. Dr. Moffeit questioned is it possible for a student to have a 2.0 GPA and still have a high enough GPA to graduate. Bonnie Stevens basically stated that we have three problems. 1. A GPA can be used to admit into a program with the minimum requirements. 2. There are students that are never admitted into a program and 3. Some students remain in school aimlessly. Dr. Clark suggested this to be put on the November agenda.

**Agenda Item #5-** Extra Credit general discussion in the committee decided that item was approved in the 2005 academic year.

**Agenda Item #6-** SAT-Dr. Hynes explained that ETS would introduce a third part writing exercise. UWG has replied to ETS that they would gather the information if available; however, this would not be a part of an admission requirement. SAT is not comfortable with scores and their relation in other areas of school. Dr. Johnson stated that he has contacted John Albright at the Regional Office. We can look at numbers now, but it may be unclear as to what they mean. This is a possible January agenda items. Dr. Hynes suggested that the chair of AP & P report to the Senate.

**Agenda Item #7-** Other Issues- Dr. Gaytan suggested a starting point to admit students in reference to low GPA’s and Academic Standing. Dr. Hynes explained we do have steps at a given time to evaluate if the students will improve their GPA. Admitting students and continuing students with low GPAs are two separate issues. Dr. Johnson explained the Freshmen Index. Dr. Johnson also said that UWG admitted about 50% of the first time freshmen who applied. Dr. Sharp discussed the “Forgiveness Policy”. Bonnie Stevens stated that a student could retake a course with a grade of a D or F. The second grade will count with any grade; the last course would count toward the GPA. As of now, you can repeat as often as the student chooses. Dr. Hynes suggested that the AP & P committee may want to review the number of times a student can repeat a course. We need to insure that he solving of the problem does not cause a new problem per Dr. Hynes. This should be on the January agenda.

Dr. Clark asked for other agenda items.

1.) Dr. Clark discussed a + or- on GPA grade reporting. Dr. Hynes said that UGA announced their change; the Board stopped it.
2.) Dr. Clark asked for clarification for the 10 office house for faculty and if it is AP &P’s committee’s role. Does the 10 hours include electronic
communications? Dr. Hynes stated that he has discussed that at the SGA retreat. Dr. Hynes noted that we may put this on hold and Blake Lord (SGA President) may be able to bring more information back to the committee. Dr. Gaytan also noted that this question had been discussed in his department with on line instruction. Dr. Hynes asked if FASP or AP &P should address the policy. The committee will wait on feedback from Blake Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia Gibbs