

Academic Affairs Committee Meeting

3:30 PM, 501 Main Library

11.7.00

Don DeSmet reported that we are stalled in moving ahead on discussions about academic regulations because of the ambiguous status of the undergraduate Programs Committee. The committee does not yet have a Chair.

Computer support is an ongoing priority for this committee.

"Don't believe that in these days of high technological expectations in the classroom and in research that proper support is available to faculty and students." Don will continue to make noise on this important issue.

We have not heard anything back yet from administration on how often the forgiveness policy is invoked. There is a strong sense in the committee that it is unequally applied across campus. There is a general irritation among committee members that the forgiveness policy exists and seems to be used as part of a recruiting initiative by the university. One question is How and when was the forgiveness policy established? and How can we be rid of it?

Jim Otteson (jotteson@tenhour.as.us.edu) suggested and volunteered to write a rationale for eliminating the forgiveness policy. In the statement there should be a reason, a mechanism/strategy for its removal, and a schedule to do so.

It has come to our attention that the Student Affairs Committee is investigating the forgiveness policy, so Don will consult with them.

The actions involved in dealing with this issue should go to the Senate, Provost, Council of Deans, and the SGA.

A discussion about the withdrawal policy ensued.

Don will check with Roger Thompson for data/statistics on forgiveness, connect with Student Affairs Committee on same, and track down a representative UA transcript that includes courses which have been forgiven, so we can see how it is represented.

Don wants to pen a draft resolution in support of strengthening computer support at The University of Alabama.