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Disruptive Student Behavior

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4/21/2008: Clara Krug (CLASS) asked for clarification as to whether the Faculty Welfare Committee was involved with the study about disruptive student behavior. Jean Paul Carton (CLASS, Welfare Committee chair) assured her that the process was beginning but that the process would be deliberate and would likely take some time.

10/20/2008: Diana Sturges (CHHS) asked to add to the disruptive behavior discussion earlier in the meeting. A Faculty Learning Community in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning will be launching a survey that will deal with disruptive behavior and class management issues in about two or three weeks. Her group has designed the survey and received IRB approval; they will share the results later on. She encouraged as many faculty and students as possible to take part in the survey.

11/19/2008: Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee again thanked Dr. Bleicken. He then stated that the Faculty Welfare Committee has reported that the office of Judicial Affairs is bringing forward new policies based on those produced by Virginia Tech after the tragedy. Faculty Welfare is pursuing its charge to look into how we handle disruptive students and is working on producing amendments and/or additions to that policy. The committee is waiting on Judicial Affairs to supply information essential to the committee’s work.

Charge to Committee

To: Jean-Paul Carton, Chair of Welfare Committee

From: Senate Executive Committee Re: Student Behaviors Policies and Procedures

Date: February 6, 2008

The Senate Executive Committee asks that, pursuant to the standing charge of your committee, you examine Georgia Southern University’s current policies and procedures regarding disruptive student classroom behavior, and, if you believe changes should be made, that you make recommendations for such changes. In pursuing this charge, you will consul with the Office of Judicial Affairs, and also check on Board of Regents policies (if any) regarding this matter. Further, to what extent, if any, are the University legal office and the Provost’s office involved?

Among other avenues of inquiry, we suggest that you try to determine the extent of student disruptive behavior (in its various forms, especially in the classroom) on our campus, both what is and (perhaps) what is not reported to Judicial Affairs. This could involve checking trends at other colleges and universities, and you may find it helpful to check policies and procedures on other BOR system
campuses and elsewhere. It would also be of value to know if faculty avoid pursuing/reporting cases of student disruption and, if so, the reasons why.

Also, you may wish to talk with Michael Moore (COE) about a Fall term incident regarding a disruptive student.

Marc D. Cyr
SEC Chair