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TO: Dr. Marc Cyr, Chair, Senate Executive Committee
FROM: Bruce Grube, President 
DATE: December 1, 2008
SUBJECT: **November 19, 2008, Faculty Senate Recommendation:
Policy on Limiting Course Withdrawals**

Following review of the recommendation adopted by the Faculty Senate at the November 19, 2008, Faculty Senate meeting, as provided in your memo of November 20, 2008, I have approved a response to the motion presented to the Senate by Dr. Patricia Humphrey on behalf of the Academic Standards Committee and Dr. Mark Yanochik (Summer 2008 Chair).

MOTION:

The Academic Standards Committee recommends that the Senate approve the policy on limiting withdrawals from courses to 5, with certain exceptions, as proposed by the First Year Experience Task Force.

RATIONALE:

This idea for this policy was first proposed by the First Year Task Force AY 2006-2007. It is really tied in with approved policies such as no adjusted GPA in moving our students toward academic excellence.

This policy proposes that any undergraduate students be limited to five (5) withdrawals during his/her entire tenure at the University. This amounts to (assuming 3 hour courses) allowing withdrawals of 12% of the hours required for graduation. Exceptions will be granted for such reasons as military or medical withdrawals. In addition, exceptions may be granted above the 5 course limit by the student's dean. Summer courses will not count toward the five course limit as these are typically sufficiently compacted in time frames as to constitute a different set of circumstances.

We are not alone in the System in instituting such a policy. UGA has instituted a 4 course limit effective Fall 08; Kennesaw has an 8 course limit.

The policy was unanimously approved by the Academic Standards Committee at it May 19, 2008 meeting. Proposed implementation is for Fall 2009.

gm

- c: Dr. Linda Bleicken
- Dr. Amy Heaston
- Ms. Candace Griffith
- Dr. Pat Humphrey
- Dr. Mark Yanochik