

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) annual report committee recommendations  
Excerpted from 2008-2010 annual reports on GC Senate "green page" at  
[http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/univ\\_senate/](http://info.gcsu.edu/intranet/univ_senate/)

From 2010-2011

**Required Language for Syllabi:** At the 18 Apr 2011 meeting of the University Senate, a recommendation from the floor was to review the increasing number of standardized statements that are required for inclusion on all course syllabi. Such statements include language regarding Learning Disabilities, Fire Drills, and possibly the Encouragement to Participate on Student Opinion Surveys Statement (as recommended by 2010-2011 FAPC). If the language of these statements is standardized for all course syllabi, what is the most efficient way of handling this language? Is there a centralized location where this "required" language is stored and accessible to faculty members? The response from the committee chair to this recommendation was that it would be passed on to the 2011-2012 FAPC for its consideration, which is why this matter is listed here.

**Post-Tenure Review:** At the outset of the academic year, a work group was charged to review the Academic Affairs Handbook language on post-tenure review and return to the committee with recommendations on proposed revisions to this language. This work is still in progress and the work group requested permission to continue its work in April 2011 and provide a report to the 2011-2012 FAPC at its 29 Apr 2011 organizational meeting. Additional details are available in the Significant Deliberations section of this report.

From 2009-2010

**Use of Workgroups:** The institution of workgroups around various issues helped make committee meetings more productive. Continuing this practice is suggested in order to facilitate committee business.

**Committee Membership:** As membership is determined for committees each academic year, we recommend FAPC membership have as many continuing members as possible due to the complexity of the issues and need for a historical perspective as the committee deliberates.

**University Faculty Bylaws:** This issue has been on the table for the past two years. Due to other concerns more pressing over the 2009-10 year, not much work was done regarding this issue. It is recommended that the 2010-11 FAPC continue to work through this issue.

**Faculty Availability in the summer:** It is suggested that FAPC continue to gather information and further discuss the following items related to faculty availability during the summer: 1) research current policy and practices at other USG and aspirational peer institutions; 2) review and seek interpretations on USG and institutional policy on summer availability; and 3) develop policy recommendations to guide expectations of faculty availability during the summer.

**Advocacy role of FAPC:** Shift focus of FAPC as strictly advisory to more of an advocate for faculty concerns.

From 2008-2009

**Meeting Flexibility:** The ongoing dilemma that FAPC faced during the 2008-09 year is the recognition that the issues on our table were difficult to resolve with once a month meetings. It is recommended that the 2009-10 FAPC consider more flexibility in the meeting schedule so that pressing business can be attended to in a more timely fashion. The institution of workgroups around various issues helped with some of the concern, and perhaps this practice could become more prominent in order to facilitate committee business.

**Committee Membership:** As membership is determined for committees each academic year, we recommend FAPC membership have as many continuing members as possible due to the complexity of the issues and need for a historical perspective as the committee deliberates.

**Faculty Workload:** A continuing issue from the 2007-08 FAPC, this issue was originally brought to their table by former Vice President of Academic Affairs Anne Gormly. The 2008-09 FAPC discussed this issue in depth, and came close to drafting a policy only to realize that the policy that we were discussing was extraordinarily difficult to move forward. Consequently, it is suggested that the 2009-10 FAPC continue to consider this issue.

**GCSU Faculty Awards:** Jeff Turner chaired a workgroup during the 2008-09 academic year to look at the criteria of all faculty awards and presented their findings to FAPC. The lists of faculty awards to be reviewed are as follows:

- Service:
  - Faculty University Service Award
  - Irene Rose Community Service Award
- Teaching:
  - Teaching Excellence Award
  - Distinguished Achievement in Teaching (the name of this awardee is forwarded as a nominee for the University System of Georgia award)
- Research:
  - Excellence in Research and Publication
  - Excellence in Artistic Endeavor
  - Scholarship of Teaching and Learning
- Career Achievement
  - Distinguished Professor

This work was also very daunting and difficult to complete. Jeff Turner and the workgroup have graciously volunteered to continue this work over the summer and have recommendations to the 2009-10 FAPC by August 2009. The 2008-09 FAPC recommends that this issue receive highest priority by the 2009-10 FAPC.

**Criminal Background Checks:** "Who sits on the committee for background checks?" Currently, there is no faculty representative for faculty searches and no staff representative for staff searches. Should this occur? The 2007-08 FAPC recommended further discussion as an item of business for the 2008-09 FAPC. This issue did NOT become an item of business for the 2008-09 FAPC, and thus may need to be addressed by the 2009-10 FAPC.

**University Faculty Bylaws:** The workgroup (see "Other Significant Deliberations" section) will continue to meet during Summer 2009 and report progress to the 2009-10 FAPC.

**Post Tenure Review:** Take a look at the procedure and the appeals process.

**Faculty Availability in the summer:** It is suggested that FAPC continue to gather information and further discuss the following items related to faculty availability during the summer: 1) research current policy and practices at other USG and peer institutions; 2) review and seek interpretations on USG and institutional policy on summer availability; and 3) develop policy recommendations to guide expectations of faculty availability during the summer.