ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

1974-1975

The Academic Affairs Committee met eleven times throughout the academic year 1974-1975. The following are the issues discussed and dealt with by the Committee:

1. The Summer Sessions calendars for 1976-1977 were formulated and presented to the Faculty Senate for approval. (Faculty Senate Doc. #893, Dec. 19, 1974.)

2. The Committee recommended that the 1975-1976 calendar be changed so that Spring recess will be from 12 noon, April 10-19, instead of April 16-25. As a result of this change the Spring recess would end with the Easter holidays and three full weeks will remain for classes following the recess. (Faculty Senate Doc. #892, Dec. 19, 1974.)

3. The Committee recommended to the Faculty Senate that the letter "R" be included on a student's transcript indicating that a specific course was repeated. This recommendation was not accepted by the Faculty Senate. The Committee is still discussing the issue and may re-present the recommendation to the Senate at a later date. (Faculty Senate Doc. #894, Dec. 19, 1974.)

4. The Committee discussed the add-drop policy at various meetings. Although no concrete suggestions were made, the Committee agreed that the changing of the add-drop policy is a complex issue and can't be decided with statistics alone. Since this issue could stay with us for years before final resolution, the Committee will be evaluating as many facets as possible before making any recommendations to the Faculty Senate.

5. The Committee was asked to consider the possibility of eliminating the final exam period by incorporating final exams into the final week of the semester. For the following reasons the Committee does not recommend eliminating the separate final exam period:

   a. The Committee feels that the final exam week is necessary to allow sufficient time for the student to prepare for final exams without the additional pressure of class attendance.

   b. Since University regulations currently state that students may drop courses through the last day of classes, eliminating the separate final exam week would require a change in the current drop policy on campus.
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6. The Committee recommended to the Secretary of the University that information concerning repeating a course be included in each semester's Schedule of Classes.

7. The Committee continues to deal with the issue of finding a viable form to be used for student evaluation of faculty teaching throughout the University. A task force for the purposes of investigating, evaluating and making recommendation on various possible evaluation forms was created. Two members of the Academic Affairs Committee serve on the task force. The task force has issued a report on its investigations. However, since the task force, at this time, does not have definite evaluation form/s to recommend for general University usage for the Spring Semester 1975, and since the Regents request that student evaluation of faculty teaching be implemented University wide this semester, the Academic Affairs Committee recommends the following:

That each department of the University develop one form for student evaluation of instruction for use within the department for Spring Semester 1975 only.

However, departments offering studio, laboratory or clinical sections, as well as lecture sections, should develop an additional standard form to evaluate these special classes as well.

Academic Affairs Committee:

Phyllis Goodman
William Halloran (ex-officio)
Doris Hopkins
Richmond McQuistan (ex-officio)
Olga Moore (Chairperson)
Leo Muskatevc
Ian Winters
C. Edward Weber (ex-officio)

Student Members:
Robert Curry
Robert Flancher
Michaël Langyel
Michael Stillman
Elizabeth Wright