

Student Affairs Policy Committee

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA® STUDENT AFFAIRS POLICY COMMITTEE

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Student Affairs Policy Committee Annual Report 2013-2014

SAPC Members:

Theodore Tong, Pharmacy, **CHAIR** (6/11-5/14)
Rebecca L. Blakiston, University Library (6/10-5/14)
Chris Chavez, ASUA, (8/13-5/14)
Lauri Macmillan Johnson, School of Architecture/Landscape Architecture (7/10-5/14)
A Tim Jull, Geosciences (7/10-5/14)
Warren Kane, GPSC, (8/13-5/14)
Bobbi McKean, School of Theater, Film and Television, (6/10-5/14)
S. Mae Smith, Disability/Psychoeducational Studies (6/11-5/14)
Kendal Washington White, Dean of Students, *ex-officio* (8/09-)
Lynda Zwinger, English (7/10-5/14)

Committee actions:

The committee met once during the 2013-2014 academic year to hear progress of the drafting of the UA campus wide tobacco smoking free policy being crafted by the offices of the Vice President of Student Affairs and Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Human Resources. The policy draft will be presented to the Faculty Senate this semester is intended to unify all of the UA's policies concerning smoking and tobacco. The committee received a report from the ASUA Student Health Advocacy Committee on the group's effort to engage students to support for a smoke-free campus.

The committee reviewed with details from the UA BookStore several issues surrounding current UA textbook adoption policies. The importance of the on-time submission of adopted textbook by faculty is an important responsibility to ensure the prospects of lower prices of adopted textbooks to students who purchase them before the next semester's classes begins. Means to encourage and incentivize faculty and department compliance with on-time submission deadlines of adopted textbooks were explored by committee members. The UA BookStore provides students with many options with price comparisons to competing book vendors on-line and others. Committee members learned about the promise of e-textbooks, open access to e-Books, and suggested the UA BookStore promote the availability of *Kindles* and tablets.

The committee heard from Dean of Students Kendall Washington White on the progress with updating the UA's Official Activity Excused Absence Policy. The policy is being updated to address criticism of being vague and too often causes confusion for students and faculty members involved with requests to be excused from class by a student who is officially representing the UA at a function or activity. Dean Washington White projected that an online submission for excused absence process should be available by Fall 2014.



The committee was updated on ongoing revision process involving student withdrawal policy being conducted by the UA Undergraduate Council.

On April 21, the committee having convened its members online to reviewed the final draft of the UA tobacco-free campus policy reported to its finding to Faculty Senate Executive Committee recommending that that the policy be forwarded to the Senate for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

Theodore Tong Chair, SAPC