

# UCC 0023 07S

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TO: Joel Bloom, Chair  
Undergraduate Council

FROM: Simon Bott  
Academic Policies and Procedures Committee

SUBJECT UC 9261 07S - Undergraduate Grievance Policy

DATE: April 4, 2007

Committee members participating in the discussions (including email communication): Rebecca Achée Thornton, Charles Peters, Maria Solino, Lane Gauthier, William Munson, Kevin Simon for William Chernish, and Simon Bott.

The SACS team put forward this proposal to formalize the policy that is present in the catalog.

The UC considered this proposal at the last meeting for inclusion in the Student Handbook.

The committee recommends approval of this proposed policy with a slight modification. Rather than having two different deadlines for grade-related and non-grade issues, the 90 day deadline apply to both.

Thus, the proposal language would be as follows. It is best placed on page 64, under **Final Grade Reports** replacing the last paragraph.

"Issues of grievance regarding grades, course requirements and classroom procedures can occur. The first and best source for resolving the problem is with the professor. The university expects most issues to be resolved amicably and informally with the professor. In the event that an informal resolution is not possible, students may file a written grievance on a General Petition form, available in departmental and college offices, and at Registration and Academic Records, 128 Welcome Center. These forms must be filed with the professor within 90 days of the posting of the final grades for the course. Appeals may be considered at the following levels, as necessary: Professor, Departmental Chair, College Dean, Senior Vice President (or designated representatives at all levels). Faculty are required to retain all evaluated student material for a six month period after the end of the last class of the semester evaluated." *not previously returned*

Because assigning a grade or evaluating a student's work performance involves the faculty's professional judgment and is an integral part of the faculty's teaching responsibilities, disagreement with an instructor concerning a grade or evaluation is not a justifiable grievance to be considered under this policy unless factors such as those mentioned in the previous paragraph can be shown to have affected that grade or evaluation.

Please note that appeals for decisions in the following areas are guided by separate appeal or grievance policies and procedures: Affirmative Action, Academic Honesty, Student Life, Financial Responsibility