

**Undergraduate Council Response to UCC 0126 10S: SGA Bill to Institute Professor
Evaluations when a Student Withdraws from a Class**

1) From: Luces Faulkenberry <Luces.Faulkenberry@mail.uh.edu>
Date: Tue, 30 Mar 2010 14:46:05 -0500
To: Lawrence Williams <bioldm@CENTRAL.UH.EDU>
Subject: Re: FW: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

hello Larry,

I believe this bill, UCC 0126 10S, should include a requirement that professors should provide an evaluation of each student withdrawing from their class.

In short, I see no real need for this bill.

2) From: Maria Solino <Maria.Solino@mail.uh.edu>
Reply-To: <Maria.Solino@mail.uh.edu>
Date: Tue, 30 Mar 2010 10:10:12 -0500
To: Lawrence Williams <bioldm@CENTRAL.UH.EDU>
Subject: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

Good morning,

This seems somewhat reasonable. My only concern is that sometimes students drop because they are failing, with no fault on the instructor's part, and might use these evaluation forms to lash out.

3) From: Jerry Waite <jjwaite@central.uh.edu>
Date: Tue, 30 Mar 2010 10:27:30 -0500
To: Lawrence Williams <bioldm@CENTRAL.UH.EDU>
Conversation: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S
Subject: Re: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

Hi Larry,

I understand where the students are coming from in this proposal, but think it would be nearly impossible to implement.

4) From: "Fishman, Sarah" <histl@Central.UH.EDU>
Date: Mon, 29 Mar 2010 17:09:58 -0500
To: "Williams, Lawrence" <bioldm@Central.UH.EDU>
Conversation: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S
Subject: RE: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

On the faculty evaluations for students who withdraw, plenty of students drop for a wide variety of reasons many of which leave them little time for this. There could also be major logistical problems. But if we

could establish an online evaluation and send the link to any student who drops a course, fine. I'd set a minimum time they had to have been enrolled, not those who drop before day 12 for example. I don't know how Patrick will be able to incorporate those with the rest of the class, but maybe that's not necessary anyway.
I think they're barking up the wrong tree, but don't think faculty have much to fear from this.

5) From: "Simon, Kevin S" <KSSimon@Central.UH.EDU>
Date: Tue, 30 Mar 2010 09:51:34 -0500
To: "Williams, Lawrence" <bioldm@Central.UH.EDU>
Conversation: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S
Subject: FW: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

Larry,

The request seems valid on its surface. We do need to consider separating these from other evals so we know they are from students who withdrew; and they will more than likely reflect negatively on the instructor. Additionally, the SGA is recommending the Office of Admissions administer these; this should probably be RAR, or another mechanism (maybe RAR can forward the names and classes of all students who withdraw from a class to the department of that class, who can then create a mechanism to administer the evaluation). We should also consider whether or not to require for Medical, Emergency, or Semester withdrawals.

6) From: John Snyder <JLSnyder@uh.edu>
Date: Mon, 29 Mar 2010 15:07:14 -0500
To: Lawrence Williams <bioldm@CENTRAL.UH.EDU>
Subject: Re: FW: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

Larry,

The SGA proposal would seem at first glance to have merit, but I see a couple of significant problems. The first is that students often withdraw quite early in the semester. Should a student who attended only 20% of the semester get an evaluation to be weighted equally with students who attended the entire semester? I think not. Secondly, given that only 7% of students are involved, it seems to me that this proposal would tend to give disproportionate weight to students who drop courses early, and this would in turn encourage "professor shopping" and the like.

I would be much more favorably inclined toward this if the data so gained were for the professor's information only, and not included with the other reviews.

7) From: "Dunkelberger, Martha J" <mdunkelb@Central.UH.EDU>
Date: Mon, 29 Mar 2010 15:40:19 -0500
To: "Williams, Lawrence" <bioldm@Central.UH.EDU>
Conversation: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S
Subject: RE: University Coordinating Commission: Undergraduate Council Response needed for UCC 0126 10S

Larry,

I am certainly curious to know how often students drop a course due to teaching style of a professor, and I agree that without evidence to support the SGA's contention that that frequency is "often", we cannot

improve. I am, however, hesitant to institute a policy that I suspect will be little used, and could likely result in a great deal of additional paperwork/busywork for staff.

Perhaps we could institute a pilot study to determine how often students would take advantage of this opportunity. Could a dialog box be opened on the withdrawal page of PeopleSoft that allows a student to select a "reason for withdrawal" and an open response option for clarification? The immediacy of the opportunity is likely to improve response rate over waiting until the end of the semester.