

At its August 25, 2009, meeting Academic Council unanimously voted to recommend that four standing committees be eliminated in an effort to reduce the committee workload of faculty. These four committees have policies that govern their functions. These policies should be cancelled.

P.S. 3501 – Distance Learning Advisory Committee – The primary function of this committee was to review courses taught through distance-learning technologies to ensure that they meet SREB Best Practice. This function has been assumed by the colleges that offer the courses with assistance provided by the Director of the E-College and the Coordinator of the Center of teaching Excellence. Other functions of the committee included coordinating distance-learning across the campus which is now a role of the Director of the E-College and providing instruction in teaching via distance-learning which is a function of the Coordinator of Center for Teaching Excellence.

P.S. 3514 – Academic Privacy Act Appeals Committee – The primary function of this committee is to hear grievances that arise from applying the Privacy Rights of Students and Parents. Due to the rare occurrence of these appeals, the grievance process could follow the procedure in the Student Handbook, and a committee can be summoned to hear a grievance without maintaining a standing committee for this purpose.

P.S. 3527 – Academic Freedom committee – The primary function of this committee is to hear alleged disputes between faculty and the administration that appear to involve academic freedom. The committee's function can be subsumed by the Faculty Appeals committee. A proposed revision to the Faculty Appeals Committee policy to accomplish this is being presented.

P.S. 3536 – Disabilities Compliance Committee – the primary function of this committee is to assist the administration and the disabilities Services Coordinator with issues of disabilities compliance and accommodations. In recent years, the Coordinator has not faced any issues of disabilities compliance and accommodations that required committee input. The committee has ceased to function in any meaningful way.