REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STUDENT GRIEVANCES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2003 TO JANUARY 30, 2006

This report covers the period from September 1, 2003 to January 30, 2006, under the chairmanship of Professor P.G. Kirkpatrick. Please note that whereas the Chair's appointment ended on August 30th 2005 there was one case which was only resolved in January of 2006 due to a continuance.

Statistics
During the period covered by this report the Committee received ten grievances, all of which have been heard.

In each of the ten cases a full hearing was convened. In one case the grievance was upheld and in one other case the grievance was upheld in one aspect of the case. In the other eight cases the Committee found the grievance to be unsupported by the evidence.

Interim Relief
Only one griever requested interim relief (Section 3.3 of the Code of Student Grievance Procedures) pending the final decision on the grievance. This was not granted after consultation with the Associate Dean of Students and the Dean of Arts.

Comments

The Committee was satisfied that in each of the ten grievances every avenue of mediation had been exhausted before these cases came before the Committee. In at least eight of these cases where whole faculties were named as the respondent, the Committee was reassured to learn that every effort had been made by the respective faculties to insure the rights and privileges of their students. The fact that such grievances have become fewer in number over the years, is, I think, the result of greater attention being taken by faculty administrators to explain their decisions to students and to make clear the rules governing each one of their respective programs.

Finally, I would be remiss were I not to give my thanks for the support and guidance of the various members of the University Secretariat, particularly the secretary to the Committee on Student Grievances, Ms. Patricia Wood.

Respectfully submitted,

Professor Patricia G. Kirkpatrick
Chair, Senate Committee on Student Grievances

December 1, 2006