

Summary of the UG Council meeting held on October 26th, 2010.

1. Mary Albrecht presented an overview of the work being done by the Top 25 UG implementation task force. She reported on the charge to the committee, how it developed both as an outgrowth of the Vol Vision and the Top 25 initiative legislated by the Governor.
2. Sally McMillan reported on the relatively newly formed Associate Deans group focusing on undergraduates. A report from this group is to be a part of the UG council minutes from now on and Dr. McMillan will attend the UG council meetings representing this group.
3. The academic policy committee approved a policy change to
 - Regarding the use of distance education and independent study credit hours. “A senior may take up to 15 hours of the last 30 semester hours through the Office of Distance Education and Independent Study (online or correspondence), but may not register for more than 2 courses simultaneously. This must be taken from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. If the student is a senior transfer, no work may be taken by correspondence.
 - An addition to current policy states that: “Students must be enrolled in a course during the term in which the coursework is initiated”
 - The committee also reaffirmed the in the context of study abroad programs all matters that are not considered applicable to decisions by the Academic Policy may be adjudicated by the CIE and the Programs Abroad Committee (PAC).
4. The appeals committee reported on the number and outcomes of student appeals acted upon during the past academic year. There were 683 dismissals resulting in 84 appeals with 28 of those granted. 58 of the 84 appeals were from students dismissed for the first time and 22 of those were granted. 26 of the 84 were from students dismissed two or more times. Only 6 of those were granted. It was noted that the number of appeals has declined by almost half since 2008 when UT’s new dismissal policy increased the requirements for students dismissed more than once.
5. The Curriculum Committee report includes a College of Business proposal to adopt a freshmen admission model. Students commit to a major upon admission or can be a pre-business major and be considered for admission to a major after completing the first two years. At that point admission to a major would be contingent upon capacity in that major. The policy change is an effort to best allocate resources given current faculty numbers, building space, and student demand. The proposal passed with minor revisions. A discussion of approving universal transfer paths took place but the matter was tabled contingent upon gathering further information.
6. The General Education Committee reported on new courses that would satisfy gen ed requirements.