

Georgia Institute of Technology
Student Academic and Financial Affairs Committee
Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2020

Voting Members	Affiliation	Role
Hamid Garmestani	MSE	
Reta Pikowsky	Registrar	
Teresa Snow	BIOLSCI	
Kate Williams	CTL	
Guanggui Lan	ISyE	
Josephine Yu	MATH	
Joshua Eastwood	UG-STU	
Jackson Caruso	UG-STU	
Nettie Brown	GRAD-STU	
Non-Voting Members	Affiliation	Role
Calton Pu#	Faculty Executive Board	
Carla Bradley#	Counseling Center	
Standing Guests/Admin Support	Affiliation	Role
Ansley Sharp	Registrar	Admin Support
Jamaal Rasheed	Registrar	Admin Support

#Without Vote

There are 9 voting members. There are 5 needed to reach a quorum.

Present: Garmestani (MSE), Pikowsky (REG), Snow (BIOS), Williams (CTL), Lan (ISyE), Yu (MATH), Eastwood (UG-STU), Caruso (UG-STU), Brown (GRAD_STU), Pu (FEB Liaison), Bradley (COUNCEN)

Guests: Sharp (REG), Rasheed (REG)

1. A motion was made to elect Kate Williams as Chair. The motion was seconded and approved.
2. A motion was made to elect Hamid Garmestani as Vice Chair. The motion was seconded and approved.
3. The Registrar was acknowledged as the Committee's Secretary.
4. The Registrar's Office updated the Committee on approved absence requests and updated the committee on recent activities. With classes having gone online in Spring and Summer and with Fall 2020 including online, residential, and hybrid delivery modes, the questions on excused absences have taken a different path. If all a student's classes are online, for example, would an excused absence be necessary and, if so, what information would need to be gathered is the question at hand now. The Committee will circle back to this at a future meeting.

5. Committee members discussed possible agenda items for this year. The following items were mentioned with follow-up as noted.
 - a. SGA and faculty senate endorse support of election day accommodations. Students to submit voting request absence form to registrar's office.
 - b. Graduate student stipends was an important topic last year. Kate will follow up with Dr. Ferri to determine the current status of any current proposals. One potential piece of unfinished business is the transparency of stipend information about the academic unit and graduate studies levels.
 - c. Student participation in national championships or Olympic events was discussed last year without any policy or guidance being approved. This should be revisited to determine if action needs to be taken.
 - d. Textbook affordability project was introduced last year. Kate will ask Colin Potts for an update.
 - e. Potential agenda item for this year: financial impact of COVID on students. Dean of Students offers a hardship fund of \$1000.
6. The Registrar will send a Doodle poll to determine some possible meeting dates for Oct., Nov., and possibly Dec. to finish out the Fall term.

Submitted by,

Reta Pikowsky, Associate Vice Provost and Registrar
Secretary, SAFAC