**STUDENT CODE CHANGES: AN OVERVIEW AND SUMMARY**

In Fall 2014, ASSA was charged to “review and consider ways to restructure PPM 6-22.” The goal was to retain in the Student Code the *policy* elements which codify students’ rights and responsibilities including their due process rights. But to remove and revise the *procedural* elements by which the institution was to offer due process to students.

* The procedures in Code need revision as they have proven to be inefficient. Students with a complaint may experience *petition run-around*, having their complaint adjudicated by multiple committees. For example, depending on the situation, a student grade complaint may have to be heard by a College Hearing Committee, the Registrar’s Office, and the Bursar’s Office.
* The code is also unfair, as students with the same fact pattern may be treated differently. For example, a student charged with academic dishonesty may be adjudicated differently in the Hearing Committees in different Colleges. Such inconsistency is a violation of substantive due process and leaves the institution open to potential litigation.
* Finally, the current policy is unresponsive to changes in state statute, case law, and the need for procedural flexibility in rendering due process. Presently, any change in procedure must be vetted in open hearings and then approved by ASSA, Student Senate, Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Faculty Senate, President’s Council, and Trustees. Such a process takes several months, exposing the institution to legal risk.

To realize these changes a sub-committee ~~(below)~~ was empanelled by ASSA to extricate the procedures but retain the policy in the student code.

* Eric Amsel, Due Process Officer and member of Faculty Executive Committee
* Jeff Hurst, Dean of Students
* Bruce Bowen, Associate Provost for Enrollment Services
* Stephanie Hollist, University General Counsel
* Sandi Weber, Student
* Patrick Thomas, Associate General Counsel (added summer 2015)

The student code was revised in the following ways and has been unanimously approved by ASSA, Student Senate, and Faculty Senate Executive Committee:

* Retains the sections dealing with student rights, student responsibilities, and sanctions.
* Clarifies the sections dealing with how student code issues are resolved and what remedies are available to students.
* Removes the sections dealing with specific step-by-step petition processes.
* Creates the *Student Code Procedural Committee* (SCPC) whose responsibility is to create procedures ensuring that due process is more efficient, fairer, and responsive (see VIII A)

The *Student Code Procedural Committee* will have faculty senate executive committee representation but replaces all entities, including Faculty Senate for designing and implementing due process procedures. The current policy and procedures of PPM 6-22 will remain in place until the new procedures are fully vetted and able to be implemented.