

May Experience Subcommittee  
7 December 2006  
Minutes

Present: John Batson (Chair), Bill Aarnes, John Armstrong, Mike Bressler, Emily Calvin, Jeremy Cass, Carol Daniels, Paula Gabbert, Dennis Haney

1. The chair began with an update on the May Experience (ME) issues presented at the last meeting of the Implementation Task Force (4 December 2006). The following ME items were announced at the ITF meeting:
  - a. Students will be charged to live on campus during the ME, but that charge will be at a reduced rate.
  - b. Students are not required to stay on campus during the ME.
  - c. Students will be responsible for paying for their own meals.
  - d. Seniors will be allowed to participate in ME after graduation and probably will not be charged additional tuition fees.
2. The committee will attempt to confirm that seniors who wish to participate in ME may do so without having to pay extra tuition fees.
3. The committee discussed Study Away options for the ME and expressed continued concern for the financial implications of travel experiences in May, including elevated costs related to tourist season and the present structure of Furman's study away budgets. The committee would like to hear from members of the study away subcommittee and the administration on such issues. The committee hopes that students will have to bear only travel related costs for travel programs.
4. The committee had a lengthy discussion on the issue of faculty compensation for ME courses. Of greatest concern was that only offering course release time for ME faculty (as the CRC document states) could limit a department's regular course offerings and/or limit the number of faculty teaching in the ME. The committee would like to investigate the possibility of optional financial compensation for ME courses as a way of lessening the impact of excessive course release time. The chair will petition to have the compensation issue addressed in future ITF Steering and chair meetings.
5. The chair assigned committee members various tasks to be completed during the Winter term, including completing the ME portion of the course proposal form, drafting ME policy for policy and procedures, and formulating surveys that would generate feedback regarding ME from current sophomores, freshmen, and prospective students.