University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Department of Landscape Architecture

Retroactive Withdrawal Appeals Committee

Year End Report Fall 2009 - Spring 2010

- 1. David Williams, Plant and Soil Science, began Fall 2009 as chair of the RWA.
- 2. March 2010, Thomas Nieman, Landscape Architecture, assumed the chair position upon the resignation of Dr. Williams.
- 3. The break down of cases is as follows:

October 14 November 5 (with an additional case tabled) December 11 January 10 February 12 March 10 April 7 May 23 Total 93 (cases heard and decisions rendered)

- 4. The decisions relative to the cases can be found in the forms filled out for each case as filed with the Faculty Senate Office
- 5. A concern of the RWA is that a fair number of cases are being passed on, from the colleges, that could have or should have been handled within the college impacted. These include: late withdrawal from courses, mid term illnesses, improper withdrawal from courses, advice to go ahead and try to salvage a bad semester with the idea that if things don't work out one can always do a RWA, poor decisions on the part of students because of alleged advice from advisors, attempts to raise GPA, pre-existing medical conditions, etc. Some of these cases are, in our opinion, an abuse of the system, for example, we should not be expected to hear cases where the issue could have been resolved by using a "Repeat Option" or where someone wants a "W" removed from their record.

The RWA recognizes that each case is unique and each has its own issues, however, there is concern that the work load of the committee is gradually becoming larger and threatens to overwhelm the system.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Nieman, Chair