PROPOSED DAVIS DIVISION REGULATION 534

COURSE EVALUATIONS

Submitted by the Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction

Endorsed by

The proposed Regulation would mandate the use of course evaluations and specify that the course evaluation process would protect the privacy of the students and not compromise the confidentiality of the information with respect to the instructor.

It is proposed that the amendment to Regulation 534 be effective immediately.

Rationale

At present, there is no mandate for the collection of course evaluations by instructors. Although it is a nearly universal practice, there are cases in which no evaluations are collected. Such evaluations are important for the control of the quality of courses and their instructors and should be required. The growing trend toward the use of electronic means of course evaluations threatens the privacy of the evaluating student and hence the integrity of the process. Since the evaluations are integral to the academic personnel process, which is intended to be confidential, the instructor’s confidentiality should also be protected. (There are cases such as those involving legal actions where access to evaluations becomes necessary.)

Proposed Revision: Davis Division Regulation 538 shall be amended as follows. Deletions are indicated by strikeout; additions are in bold type.

534. Course Evaluations

All instructors in every course must distribute course evaluation forms in such a manner as to afford to each student the ability to evaluate the instructor and the course. Such forms shall be collected in a manner that to the fullest extent possible preserves the anonymity of the student and restricts the identification of the course instructor to authorized personnel only.