

Annual report from the Grievance Committee of the School of Education, Indiana University Bloomington for the 2018-19 Academic Year. Reported by Sarah Lubienski, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies.

Members of the Grievance Committee during the 2018-19 academic year:

J. Danish, J. Lorah, D. Estell, P. Sutton, D. Rutkowski, T. Thatcher, R. Merckle (Graduate Student)  
J. Shedd, Interim Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, Ex-Officio  
S. Lubienski, Interim Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, Ex-Officio

The committee heard no grievances this year. The committee met once and worked to complete the Student Grievance and Appeals Procedures revisions that were begun by the 2015-16 Grievance Committee. The changes include:

1. Removal of reference to “Bloomington,” since these will now be redundant with the separation from IUPUI.
2. Updating for the digital era.
3. Addition of a category of procedural appeals (e.g., when an instructor has miscalculated a grade).
4. Clarification that grievances/appeals are not used to overturn an instructor’s judgment—only in the case of a violation of student’s rights or a procedural error.
5. Addition of timeline.
6. Addition of clinical partner member for appeals involving field experiences.
7. Addition of steps to be followed before filing an appeal.
8. Addition of procedures and information on how to seek support for the process (Student Advocates Office, designated staff person).
9. Addition of details about the formal hearing procedure, based closely on the Campus Grievance Commission’s procedures.
10. Noting Policy Council’s role in appointing the committee.

The Committee discussed the content of changes to be made during the meeting and followed up with a vote to approve via email (passed unanimously among the four members who voted). Given that the document contains procedures and not policy, the committee will begin using the new document, with the assumption that the changes do not require Policy Council approval.

No other Committee activities took place.