

November 2, 2011

Faculty Senate HOP Committee

Report on Review of Proposed HOP Revisions:

9.47 Use of Residential Conference Centers

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Relevant to faculty? Yes.

A recently added Regents Rule now allows UT institutions to establish Residential Conference Centers that permit an institution to more broadly utilize residential facilities as summer conference facilities. This allows institutions to generate revenue from underutilized residential facilities during summer months. This HOP draft is virtually identical to the one recently approved by OGC for UT Dallas.

Major point(s):

1. Priority of use for UTSA faculty. It is unclear if UTSA faculty are prioritized over non-university affiliated groups. **We recommend that the prioritization of facility use is further delineated.**
2. How is an “activity or event sponsored by the university” defined? For instance, should a faculty member receive partial funding from their department are they then considered as university sponsored? Additionally, if a faculty member wants to bring a conference to campus and they do NOT receive any university funds, are they considered non-university sponsored even though their efforts are covered under their service work (or arguably under research). **We recommend that this is further defined or that a reference to the appropriate HOP policy is listed for readers.**
3. Procedures section E refers to an electronic marquee. **We recommend that because there is no such marquee, this should be removed.**
4. The prohibition of commercial advertising should be added. **We recommend that this be added to the policy.**
5. Residential Facilities should be defined in the Definitions section. **We recommend adding this definition.**

Minor point(s):

1. Exclusion of the term “academic” in the Procedures section B. Educational and academic can be different. Namely, research-related activities would likely fall under academic but not educational. It is the understanding of the committee that the term academic will be added.