

## Brothers, Sheila C

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**From:** John Thelin [jthelin@uky.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2009 1:22 PM  
**To:** Randall, David C; Thelin, John R  
**Cc:** Brothers, Sheila C; Aken, Stephanie  
**Subject:** RE: Request for time on SC agenda re Provost's guideline for summer school enrollments  
**Attachments:** Summer 2009 target enrollments.doc

**From:** John Thelin [<mailto:jthelin@uky.edu>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 16, 2009 10:00 AM  
**To:** Randall, David C; Swanson, Hollie  
**Cc:** Deyoung, Alan J  
**Subject:** Request for time on SC agenda re Provost's guideline for summer school enrollments

Dear SC Chair David Randal land SC Vice Chair Hollie Swanson:

May I have some time on the SC agenda in the near future? The matter I wish to discuss with the SC is my concern over the Provost's guidelines for summer school enrollments for summer 2009.

As a point of context and reference, I believe SC member Prof Rafi Finkel of Computer Science brought up the same issue a year ago last Spring -- and there was substantial concern expressed among the SC.

The essence of the issue with which I am concerned is thus:

- \* For every tuition dollar paid by a student in the summer, 60% goes to the Provost's office, 40% goes to the academic unit offering the course
- \* Our Associate Dean has advised faculty that in order to have a graduate course be offered and the professor receive the 10% salary plus benefits, a graduate course is expected to have an enrollment of 14 students
- \* This is not much different than the guidelines and formula outlined by the Provost for last summer.
- \* For a doctoral program in a small academic unit, enrolling 14 paying grad students for a course enrolling mostly doctoral students and some master's students is difficult -- and, I think, unreasonable. It is not good pedagogy.

\* Another consideration is that evidently if I as an instructor sponsor grad students who pay tuition and enroll in the summer for various 700 level courses (e.g., independent study, internship) there is no statement that such tuition dollars and enrollments are credited toward my salary and/or my regular 600 or 700 level course that is required to enroll 14 grad students

\* A custom in our Educational Policy Studies Department has been that if a professor is under contract to teach a summer course, then that professor is generously available for reading dissertation proposals, reading dissertation chapters, chairing doctoral dissertation defenses, chairing doctoral qualifying exams, chairing master's scholarly paper defenses, reading master's scholarly papers, and providing advising to existing doctoral and master's students -- and meeting with applicants. These are activities that help our grad students complete master's and/or doctoral degrees sooner than later. The faculty services are provided gladly and generously -- but would be unlikely if professors are not teaching a summer course, as they are more likely to be away doing research, writing grant proposals, et al.

We are a small department -- but we confer a fair number of Ph.D.s and master's degrees.

Also, since the Provost's policies have been presented and discussed for the College of Education, please note that the COE confers each year about 25% of the doctoral degrees conferred by UK and a large number of master's degrees. In my department, most of the doctoral students are full-time working professionals who pursue course work on a part time basis. That makes the availability of summer grad courses all the more essential for them to complete their advanced degrees in a timely manner.

Thanks for your consideration. Time is of the essence given the fast approaching summer -- so, I look forward to the opportunity to meet with the SC and discuss this.

John Thelin

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