Georgia Southern University

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Student Names on Class Roles

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Student Names on Class Rolls

Submitted by: Lisa Abbott
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Question(s):

1. Is there a way we can have student's names on class rolls reflect their chosen name rather than given name?

Rationale:

This question is primarily directed to protect students who are trans-gendered and going through the transitioning process. Due to their age many have not yet filed to legally change their given names. Therefore on the first day of class they face being "outed" when their name is called to confirm attendance. While "John Smith" may be presenting as Joanna Smith, this moment of identification in class reveals that she is trans-gendered. This can put these students at risk for bullying. Faculty have no way of knowing that a student goes by another name unless that student tells them. This puts the onus completely on the shoulders of the student, who may not be comfortable speaking to the faculty member before hand. If we could have the option for students to have their preferred name on the rolls it would solve this concern for faculty and students alike. I have included some two articles that discuss the issue of Trans-gendered students on college campuses.

Response:

SEC Response: Approval of RFI and forwarded to Dr. Scot Lingrell, VP of Enrollment Management

Scot Lingrell, VP of Enrollment Management, has given the following response on 11/12/2019:

A committee studying the viability of getting the student preferred name on class rolls met on

October 14, 2019 to discuss the approach to determining whether or not we could display a student's preferred name (or nickname) on the class rolls and other listings. Present were members of several offices including IT, Registrar, Admissions, and VP of Enrollment Management. There is a follow-up meeting on November 20 at which time we will determine a timeline to accomplish this task. We have combined the small workgroup from Faculty Senate (Scot Lingrell, Lauren McMillan, and Da'Jah Jones (student government representative)) has been added to the already established ad-hoc committee focusing on this issue. One issue that is delaying the process is that we are going to managed services for Banner, and the process of displaying and pulling new fields (preferred name) will be new in that new administration of the system.

RFI Response to Student's Names on Class Rolls By Scot Lingrell, VP of Enrollment Management (11/26/2019; 11:33am) Please read below/attached the RFI response from Information Technology-- This is a decent solution to the issue--but might change a bit as we go to Banner Managed Services in later Spring. One note--I believe that the RFI only dealt with Students--so, if some were concerned about Faculty/Staff that is not something our institution can do. It is all in OneUSG/Shared Services for those decisions. _____ Dr. Lingrell, I am following up on the RFI regarding preferred names for students. IT Services has evaluated various options as well as investigated solutions provided at other institutions. We are proposing the following as a solution to meet the request: 1. A student would have the ability to indicate a preferred name via the MyGs portal "personal settings" area. 2. The "Instructor Resources" tile located in the MyGs portal would contain a link indicating "View Class Roster." This class roster would display the student's name and preferred name in parenthesis. Please reference this example ! 3. In addition, the preferred name will be updated in Folio's - Class List / Grade Book and Folio Email Address Book. You can reference an example here which shows the original name then changed to preferred name. 4. Important Note: The solution outlined would only apply to students and not faculty/staff. The reason being that the source of record for Faculty/Staff is OneUSG with no ability to change this without going through a legal name change. The team is prepared to have this available by Monday, March 2nd. Please let us know if this is acceptable as it would be in the middle of the term and we do not want to cause any confusion for instructors. In a recent meeting with Dr. Ludowise the team asked if the Provost

Office would be willing to communicate this at the appropriate time to faculty. She indicated that this would not be a problem.