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New Committee Provides More Student Services

By: [Alyson Seligman](#)

July 6, 2004 4:24PM EST

Last month, USF St. Petersburg became the first regional campus to provide students with the services of a local Academic Regulations Committee, an important step toward operational autonomy for the campus, said Kevin Coughlin, ARC chair and director of admissions and records.

This committee serves as an appeals board for USF St. Petersburg undergraduate students who want to secure a waiver or modification of university-wide academic regulations. ARC also will advise academic leadership on matters related to establishing and maintaining university-wide academic regulations.

"It is really important that we have a local committee so we can best represent our students since we know their full stories," said Beatrice Smith, coordinator of advising for the College of Arts and Sciences. Smith served for four years on the Tampa ARC and now serves on the SPARC.

Beyond operational independence, this is also important step toward greater efficiency and offers the ability to provide students comprehensive services on campus, said Coughlin.

Previously, students completed a form at USF St. Petersburg and it was sent to a committee in Tampa where a decision would be made. Now, USF St. Petersburg advisors working with students on a regular basis will be on the committee that makes the decision.

Types of appeals could include readmission, academic renewal, and late/retroactive total withdrawals, registrations and drops and adds.

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