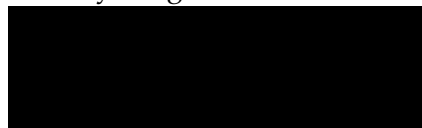


UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

January 23, 2014

Rodney Shaghouliau



Re: FOIA 14-024

Dear Mr. Shaghouliau:


I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of January 15, in which you requested:

“the grade distributions for all courses taught at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the Fall, Spring and Summer sessions from Spring 2009 to Fall 2013.

I would prefer this data in an electronic spreadsheet format that includes each course's:

- a) Subject (e.g. “Computer Science”)
- b) Subject Initials (e.g. “CS”)
- c) Course Number (e.g. “125”)
- d) Course Name (e.g. “Intro to Computer Science”)
- e) Class Section or CRN (e.g. “35881”)
- f) Class Instructor (e.g. “Johnson, Robert C”)
- g) Semester (e.g. Summer 2012)
- h) Counts of each letter grade, including +'s and -'s (e.g. “A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, etc.”)
- i) Average GPA (e.g. “3.56”), if available
- j) Number of students that dropped the course (e.g. “21”), if available.”

Information responsive to your request is available at the following URL:

. These are public documents numbering 1,222 pages.

Portions of these documents have been redacted pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

- 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure “Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law.” Specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student’s education record

Office for University Relations

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without the consent of the eligible student. In this case, grade distributions are not displayed when a section has low enrollment or when all students in the class have the same grade. Because of the low enrollment in those classes or because all the students in a class received the same grade, the grade data could identify a student. Thus, such information was not provided to you as it would not only violate FERPA, but it would also be invasion of personal privacy under Section 7(1)(c) of the Act. In addition, teaching assistant names may have a value of "N/A" if the TA has requested anonymity under FERPA. Again, release of such information would both violate FERPA and be an invasion of personal privacy.

As the Excel file type allows for editing of the included data, we ask that prior to opening the files you accept responsibility for accurate dissemination of this information and agree that no manipulation of the file that results in falsification of the information will occur.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer