

Request for ACPAC consideration.txt

From: "Mark Staszki ewicz" <mjstat@iup.edu>
To: "Rick McFerron" <jrmcferr@iup.edu>; "J. B. Smith" <jbsmith@iup.edu>
Cc: <Mark.Staszki ewicz@iup.edu>
Subject: Request for ACPAC consideration
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 3:49 PM

Dear Rick and JB,

I am writing to you in your capacity as co-chairs of ACPAC in the hope that you will be able to take the following issue up with that body. My hope is that once you and ACPAC see what I am asking that you (i.e., ACPAC) would develop and support a proposal.

The issue is the following. Each semester I try to learn the names of my students in order to create a more conducive learning environment. To do that, I have them select a seat and I create a seating chart that I use during the course of the semester. A few years ago I decided to ask the students if I could take their picture and place that picture on my seating chart. By doing so, I was more likely to get to know the students better. I've been doing this now for several semesters and no student has ever asked not to be included and on many occasions I've had students tell me how

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1. Is it possible to use student pictures for this purpose under FERPA?

I did go to www.Ed.Gov and looked up FERPA (<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html>) and there is a document on their front page which included a section by section analysis of FERPA. That link takes you to a PDF file, which I have also attached for you. In the section on "DIRECTORY" information, photograph is listed. So, it would appear that we can use the student pictures just as legally as we do when we print their name in our phone book.

If you look at the two attachments you will find some information on the FERPA issue and what other universities call "DIRECTORY" information.

2. What if IUP chose NOT to declare the pictures as "Directory Information"?

I believe some institutions do not list it as directory but still make pictures available to faculty for instructional purposes such as seating charts. We already share non directory information with faculty (e.g., student banner ID) and we have policies and procedures in place that are intended to protect this information from being inappropriately used. Why could photographs of students not fall into this same classification as long

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taking the pictures, organizing them, manipulating them, etc. that creates
the work.

I would, of course, be more than willing to meet with the two of you or with
ACPAC to discuss this further.

Please let me know if this is something ACPAC will consider.

Thanks,

Mark