

What to Expect in your Faculty Appeals Appointment

You will speak with a committee made up of two faculty members and one academic dean. Sometimes, there will also be an observer in the room; these observers are advisors or other Letters and Science staff members who want to understand the appeal process more deeply in order to work better with their students.

The dean from the committee will call your name and walk you to the committee's meeting room. Usually, the committee will ask you to summarize the circumstances that led to your being dropped, then have questions for you.

You should expect your time with the committee to last about 30 minutes.

The appeal hearing is your opportunity to tell your story in person. Committee members will have read the materials you sent and will also have reviewed your records (transcript, DARS, and notes made by advisors you have met with).

Occasionally, students ask that someone accompany them in their appeal for moral support. This support person is usually an academic advisor. The committee is most concerned to understand your story and your perspective on it; this will be the focus of the meeting. The committee may provide an opportunity for the person accompanying you to speak at the end of the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, the dean will walk you to a room where you may have privacy to wait while the committee makes a decision about your appeal. The dean will return to let you know the committee's decision and to discuss next steps with you.

We find that, no matter the decision made by the committee, students later tell us that the appeal itself was valuable to help them in understanding their own situation and in making plans to be successful. We hope this proves to be the case for you as well.