

2007-2008 Annual Report: Rules, Procedures and Agenda Committee

During the 2007-2008 Academic Year, the RP&A committee met 17 times. Agendas and minutes from all meetings were posted on the Faculty Senate web site.

The meetings were well attended by the voting members. There was active participation by both the undergraduate and graduate student members of the committee, along with the president of the Graduate Faculty. The committee occasionally invited selected administrators to participate, and all who were invited did so.

The committee functioned essentially as the executive committee for the Academic Council / Faculty Senate.

Some of the issues discussed at the committee are listed below. In most cases, far more information can be obtained from the RP&A and Faculty Senate minutes.

- A proposed attendance policy to allow students involved in official MS&T activities to be excused from classes.
- IT Users Bill of Rights
- Monitoring of the new tenure and promotion (P&T) procedures, and resolving conflicts with the Collected Rules and Regulations (CRR) in this area
- New faculty leave policy
- Issues with the new bylaws
- Populating Faculty Standing Committees when there are an insufficient number of department-nominated individuals.
- Changes in the campus pre-requisite policy on taking courses
- Name change on a sister campus
- Posting of student teaching evaluations to satisfy Senate Bill 389, including the creation of an ad-hoc committee to suggest methods for handling this
- Organizing special General Faculty meeting to approve bylaws changes
- Defining membership of the General Faculty
- Worked with UM Legal to resolve issues in the CRR dealing with the elimination of Deans, Schools and Colleges on this campus.
- Status of department chairs when departments merge
- Coordinating with the campus Strategic Planning and Panel of Peers committee
- Creation of a Conflict of Interest Committee, as a Faculty Standing Committee
- Post-Tenure review procedures
- SRI reallocation
- Endowment Income Tax
- Compensation of faculty and administrators
- Notifying instructors when students withdraw from school
- Redistribution of Faculty Senate representatives when departments change size.
- Composition of Tenure Committee
- Discussed use of the MoCat system for mid-semester student evaluation of instructors
- IT privacy policy

- Emergency preparedness
- Campus policy for handling student concerns about instructor performance
- Improving advising on campus
- Overly aggressive email spam filtering
- Operating procedures for the faculty senate
- Nepotism policy
- Meaning of life
- Academic Dishonesty
- Residential College Special Program
- Creation of Discipline Specific Curricula Committees
- Confidentiality of forms used to evaluate faculty
- Supplementary Raises
- Library switching from Web of Science to Scopus
- Historical use of the UMR name
- Residential College Proposal
- Supplemental / Soft Money raises
- Cost of name change
- Combined use of the titles “Dean” and “Vice Provost”
- Nominations for Faculty Senate Officers, Faculty Standing Committees, Intercampus Faculty Council, Missouri Association of Faculty Senates, strategic planning committee and faculty representative on Student Council executive committee for 2008-09

Respectively Submitted,

Dr. Kurt Kosbar
Past-President, UMR Academic Council
Chair, RP&A
September 11, 2008