

RP&A Minutes
Wednesday October 24, 2007
3:30 – 4:30 PM
Physics 208

Attending the meeting: Dick DuBroff, Jeff Smith, Eun Soo Park, Ola Al-Hagan, Doug Carroll, Partho Neogi, Michael Schulz, Dick Brow, Don Wunsch, Frank Blum

1. Approval of Agenda. Agenda was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes from October 10, 2007 Meeting. Minutes were approved.
3. Bylaws / Collected Rules and Regulations Update.
 - a. Special General Faculty Meeting. The General Faculty meeting was held at 4:00 PM on Monday October 22, 2007 in Civil Engineering room 125. There was a spirited discussion of the proposed Faculty Bylaws.
 - b. Ballots out (Dedie). The ballots have been mailed out to the Faculty. There was one ballot which did not get put into an envelope. RP&A decided that if someone did not get a ballot they should contact Ms. Dedie Wilson.
 - c. Proper ways to handle typos in the revised Bylaws. RP&A decided that we would send a copy of the Faculty Bylaws with the typographical errors noted to UM legal. UM legal will decide whether the changes are substantive or not. The changes they make may be integrated into the document submitted to the Board of Curators.
4. Panel of Peers Committee and Budgetary Affairs Committee. RP&A decided that the "Panel of Peers" as proposed in the August 2007 memo to the chairs is a clear violation of the Collected Rules and Regulations. The Academic Council President will inform the Provost of this decision and request that the Provost contact the chair of the

Budgetary Affairs committee to develop a plan to allow us to move forward on this issue.

5. Distribution list for AC minutes. This item was skipped.
6. Conflict of Interest Committee. The two primary issues discussed were “Is it OK for the Provost to chair the committee?” and “Should the Chancellor appoint the committee?”

There was quite a bit of discussion as to whether it was appropriate for the Provost to chair the committee. We would rather it be a faculty member. If an individual or group is not satisfied with the recommendation of the committee, then the only realistic appeal is to the Provost, and it would be awkward to have the appeal go to the chair of the committee. The committee will select a chair from its membership.

The membership of the committee is three members selected by Academic Council, three members appointed by the Chancellor and one member from the council of Graduate Students. Academic Council has selected its three representatives. The Chancellor needs to appoint the other three members, and the Council of Graduate Students needs to appoint its member and then the committee membership is complete. We will ask Academic Council to approve the committee and membership at the next Academic Council meeting. Once Academic Council approves the committee, it can meet with whatever members have been appointed thus far.

The Conflict of Interest Committee will be a Special Committee. If there is a need for it to continue year after year, we may add it as a Standing Committee in a future revision of the Faculty Bylaws.

The Academic Council President will communicate our decisions to the Provost.

7. Outstanding Referrals to Faculty Standing Committees
 - a. Attendance Policy (AF&S, Student Affairs). Academic Freedom and Standards plan to meet with Barbie Prewitt on November 6 to

discuss the proposed policy. Student Affairs will be involved in the meeting too.

- b. IT Computer forensics "Authorized Approving Authority Document" (a.k.a. IT User's Bill of Rights). The ITCC has completed a draft of the document and forwarded to UM Legal for feedback. There may be some minor changes made by the committee in parallel with legal review, but the document was judged to be at a point where legal review can commence. After the committee receives feedback from UM Legal, the document will be finalized and forwarded to Academic Council as a recommended official policy. Meanwhile, IT is treating it as its working document.
- c. Monitor progress of new P&T procedures (Tenure). This item was not discussed.

8. New Business. None.

9. Adjourn. Meeting was Adjourned.