Rules, Procedure, and Agenda (RP&A) Committee
Meeting Minutes, 9 February 2016
2:00-3:15 p.m., Library 202

Members present: D. Ahmad, M. Bohner, M. Bruening, M. Fitch, L. Gragg, B. Hale, T. Schuman, S. Sedighsarvestani, M. Zawodniok, E. Bowles

I. Call to order, minutes of the January 19, 2016 meeting were approved.

II. The following agenda for the February 18, 2016 Faculty Senate Meeting was approved:
   i. Call to Order and Roll Call
   ii. Approval of January 28, 2016 minutes
   iii. Campus Reports and Responses
      a. President Pro Tem’s Report T. Schuman (5 min.)
      b. Administrative Reports
         1. Chancellor’s Report C. Schrader (7 min.)
         2. Provost’s Report R. Marley (10 min.)
      c. Staff Council Report J. Boehm (3 min.)
      d. Student Council A. McMikle (5 min.)
      e. Council of Graduate Students T. Goodwin (3 min.)
   iv. Reports of Standing and Special Committees
      a. Curricula T. Schuman (7 min.)
      b. Administrative Review B. Hale (7 min.)
      c. Budgetary Affairs B. Hale (5 min.)
      d. Information Technology/Computing T. Vojta (5 min.)
      e. RP&A M. Bohner (5 min.)
   v. Old Business
   vi. New Business and Announcements
   vii. Adjourn

The meeting started with discussion of the Board of Curators’ decision to have two faculty members on the search committee for the new system president. Each campus will nominate one faculty member through IFC, and the Curators will choose two of them. Some potential nominees were discussed, and nominees from the floor will also be welcomed for voting to take place during the RP&A report at the Faculty Senate meeting.

The COACHE campus climate survey was discussed. S. Sedighsarvestani noted that the Faculty Recruitment and Retention Committee (FRRC) had been asking for this for a long time but then was left out of the process of implementing it. The FRRC has significant concerns about the way the data for the survey is being collected, namely that the campus asked for record-level data, meaning that survey answers can be traced to specific individuals, and that this information will be held here on campus with Institutional Research. The analysis of the survey will also be done by our own Institutional Research office. FRRC wants to ensure that the data will be held by the UM System, not on campus, and has raised these concerns with Melanie Mormile. FRRC will not endorse the survey until assurances are made in writing that the data will be shifted off-campus. There was general agreement among the RP&A members that they would all like to be
able to encourage faculty to take this survey, but that the FRRC’s concerns need to be addressed before making an official endorsement through Faculty Senate.

L. Gragg discussed the Administrative Review Committee’s (ARC) progress with the upcoming Administrative review of the Chancellor, Provost, and Dean of CASB. The ARC has drafted questionnaires for all three administrators, which will be presented at the Faculty Senate meeting. In addition, they will be posted on the FS website where they will be available for comment for one week after the FS meeting. The committee is working with Cheryl McKay to ensure complete anonymity. It will be a Qualtrex survey, and the only personal information available to the survey administrators will be whether a faculty member received the survey, and whether they opened it; they will not be able to tie any survey answers to individual faculty members. In addition, the only demographic information collected from those taking the survey will be which college they are in. It will be a binary survey, in which the only available answers will be “performed well” or “area of concern,” and a final answer which asks whether the administrator should be retained, “agree” or “disagree.” There will also be an area for making extensive comments. After the questionnaire comment period, the ARC plans to send out the survey by March 1, have it available for 3 weeks, and close it on March 25. Results will come to the committee, which will share it with the Faculty Senate officers, the administrators being reviewed, and their immediate supervisors.

It was noted that student council will likely want a little extra time during the FS meeting in order to present a resolution they passed last fall on enrollment growth.

III. Old Business

There was no old business

IV. New Business

M. Fitch wants the Budgetary Affairs Committee (BAC) to look into the $55 million increase in funding that Chancellor Schrader discussed during her report at the last FS meeting. B. Hale noted that the difference seems be associated with university assets, not revenue, and much was related to increased return on financial investments. She indicated that she would report on this during the BAC report at the FS meeting.

M. Fitch indicated that there was a referral last semester to the Personnel Committee on civil behavior and sought the RP&A committee’s advice on how to proceed. It was noted that the FS passed a resolution on civil behavior at the November 12, 2015 meeting, and that Robert’s Rules contains clear instructions for how to address unruly behavior during meetings. Thus, establishing additional rules or creating a new code of conduct does not appear to be necessary right now.

Adjournment, 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by Michael Bruening