

2006-2007 Annual Report: Rules, Procedure and Agenda Committee

During the 2006-2007 Academic Calendar Year, the Rules, Procedure and Agenda Committee met 17 times. Minutes of all of the meetings of this committee are available at the Academic Council website (<http://academiccouncil.umn.edu/>).

The actions of the committee during the past academic year are summarized below.

- Changes were made to the current format of the Academic Council Meeting Agenda: (1) “Reports and Responses” was changed to “Campus Reports and Responses” to include reports from Student Council, Council of Graduate Students, and Staff Council at the beginning of the meeting, rather than the prior practice at the end of the meeting. (2) The “Chancellor’s Report” and “Provost’s Report” were merged into an “Administrative (Chancellor/Provost) Report.”
- Frank Blum represented UMR for the Missouri Association of Faculty Senates. This reflects the typical practice in this area, with the President-Elect of the Academic Council serving as the UMR representative to the MAFS.
- The addition of a faculty-based Intellectual Property Rights Committee to the list of Faculty Standing committees was considered. Due to the time commitment required for the bylaws revisions to address the administrative realignment, this committee was not further considered during the 2006-2007 academic year. The formation of an ad hoc committee to address this issue was recommended.
- Following up the discussion from 2005-2006 regarding communication between Student Council and the faculty, an introductory email from StuCo was sent to all faculty with an opt-in/out option.
- RP&A established an ad hoc committee to determine a structure for interdisciplinary academic issues (programs, minors, and courses). Frank Blum served as the chair of this committee which drafted a portion of the revised bylaws on Special Programs.
- An Ad Hoc Committee to identify avenues to improve faculty social interaction was formed. Lance Haynes served as the chair of this committee.
- Considering the upcoming changes in committee structure dictated by the administrative realignment, RP&A recommended that current representatives be asked to serve until the new bylaws were approved and that (non-AC) representatives remain on their committees as well. Committee members agreed to this request.
- An Ad Hoc Committee for Bylaws revision was formed. The committee, chaired by Doug Carroll, was asked to develop a proposal to properly accommodate a zero-dean model. Robert Schwartz, Lance Haynes, and Beth Groenke served on this committee, which solicited input from other faculty members. An open forum to review the suggested bylaws revisions was held.
- Regarding the Bylaws revision, it was voted that wherever possible authority currently held in the Dean’s offices should be moved to departmental level rather than to the Provost level.

RP&A endorsed the slates of candidates for the following committees:

Campus Reorganization Committee:

- Financial Activities – Don Myers, Budgetary Affairs Committee
- Personnel Recommendations – Bob DuBois, Personnel Committee
- External Functions and Activities – Lance Haynes, Academic Freedom and Standards
- Administrative – Dick DuBroff, Graduate Faculty
- Steering – Kurt Kosbar, Academic Council

Provost's Strategic Plan Committee:

- Don Myers (Chair – Budgetary Affairs Committee)
- Lance Haynes (Chair – Academic Freedom and Standards Committee)
- Doug Carroll (AC Parliamentarian)

VP for Academic Affairs and VP for Graduate Studies Search Committees:

Bruce McMillin and S.N. Balakrishnan

Bill Fahrenholtz represented AC on the VP Graduate Studies Search Committee

The following referrals were made:

- a. Personnel – Amorous Relationships
- b. Academic Freedom & Standards – Prerequisite Policy and Practices
- c. Curriculum – certificate practices on campus
- d. Student Affairs – Approval of Student Organization Constitutions
- e. Personnel and Academic Freedom, and Standards Committee – Mid-semester teaching evaluations
- f. Tenure – Composition of the Campus-wide P&T Committee including the role of administrators
- g. Facilities – Develop a declaration of appropriate electrical power standards, specifications, and notification procedures for power outages/out of specification power
- h. ITCC – Computer privacy “user bill of rights”

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Schwartz and Donald Myers

Chair, RP&A (RWS: 09/06 – 05/07; DM: 06/07 – 08/07)

November 30, 2007