

Rules, Procedures and Agenda (RP&A) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 5 November 2009
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Silver and Gold Room

Those whose names appear were present at the meeting.

Greg Gelles, Michael Schulz, K. M. Isaac, Neil Book, Michael Davis, Lance Haynes, Barbara Hale, Don Wunsch, Lia Sotiriou-Leventis, Steve Raper, Paul Voss, Keith Nisbett, Dave Westenberg, Joe Newkirk

1. Approval of 5 November 2009 RP&A agenda

Approved

2. Approval of minutes from 1 October 2009 RP&A meeting

Approved

3. Discussion concerning the proposed Special Program to offer a Sustainability Minor

Provost Wray submitted a proposal to establish a Special Program for a Sustainability Minor. A motion was made and approved to refer the proposal to the Curricula Committee.

4. Discussion concerning the Capacity Task Force

Dean Goff requested recommendations for faculty representatives to serve on the Capacity Task Force. The decision was reached to recommend Professor Raper from the Student Affairs Committee and for Professor Gelles to seek additional volunteers from the Personnel and Facilities Planning Committees.

5. Discussion concerning Homecoming dates for the 2010-2011 academic calendar

Professor Westenberg, on behalf of the Public Occasions Committee, requested that a committee report be added to the agenda of the November 19 Faculty Senate meeting to add October, 1 & 2, 2010 as Homecoming dates for the 2010-2011 academic calendar.

6. Representative to the UM Tenure Committee

The Faculty Senate needs to elect a representative to the UM Tenure Committee. Professor Gelles will determine if Professor Jerry Cohen from the S&T Tenure

Committee is willing to serve as a nominee. The election was added to the agenda for the November 19 Faculty Senate meeting.

7. Discussion of status of proposed changes to the S&T Bylaws

The proposed changes to the Bylaws were approved by the General Faculty but were not forwarded to the Board of Curators for approval because of alterations recommended by UM Legal Counsel. The recommended alterations were referred to the Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee. It was agreed that any alterations to the proposed Bylaws, even those that might be considered editorial in nature, would require approval by the General Faculty before being forwarded to the Board of Curators.

8. Discussion concerning transition between computer operating systems

Professor Haynes expressed concern that faculty were not being fully informed as to the options available with regard to the transitions between computer operating systems that are currently being implemented by Information Technology. A motion was made and approved to request the ITCC to recommend policies for the transitions and to report them to the Faculty Senate. The ITCC report was added to the agenda for the November 19 Faculty Senate meeting.

9. Discussion of improving communication of issues to the faculty

A motion was made and approved to request that Department Chairs place reports from Faculty Senate and Standing Committee representatives on the agenda of faculty meetings. Professor Gelles agreed to formulate and distribute the request.

10. Report of UM Benefits Committee

Professor Gelles, on behalf of the RP&A, will request that Professor Dubroff, S&T representative to the Benefits Committee, report to the Faculty Senate on the recent meeting of the committee.

11. Policies for salary of faculty on sabbatical

Professor Schulz reported that the 1/2 salary not paid to faculty who were on sabbatical leave was now being returned to their departments. The issue is resolved.

12. Agenda for November 19 Faculty Senate meeting

The agenda for the November 19 Faculty Senate Meeting was prepared and approved.

13. Adjourn