

Rules, Procedures and Agenda (RP&A) Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, 11 March 2010
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Silver and Gold Room

Those whose names appear were present at the meeting.

Greg Gelles, Neil Book, Dave Westenberg, Lia Sotiriou-Leventis, Michael Schulz, KM Isaac, Steve Raper, Keith Nisbett, S. N. Balakrishnan

1. Approval of 11 March 2010 RP&A agenda

Approved

2. Approval of minutes from 4 February 2010 RP&A meeting

Approved

3. Preparations for the Curators' Lunch during the Curators meeting at S&T

Professor Schulz reported that the invitation list was being reviewed and finalized. The Board is funding the cost of the luncheon.

4. Discussion of executive report of the capacity task force

Professors Balakrishnan and Raper, faculty representatives to the capacity task force, reported on the draft version of the executive report that is currently under review. Four subcommittee reports are the basis for the executive report. A motion was made and passed to forward the following resolution to Dean Goff:

RP&A has received a briefing by two faculty representatives on the task force on Student Educational Capacity at S&T. RP&A commends the committee's good work on a very difficult task, and recognizes that there are many issues associated with the mandate of the committee. After deliberation, the RP&A committee encourages the task force to address, as a prominent part of its final recommendations, issues concerning faculty shortage and the ability to attract high quality graduate students.

5. Nominations for representatives to standing committees

Using nominations from responding departments, Professors Schulz and Gelles developed a slate of nominees for standing committees. There was no nomination for one position on the Library Committee because insufficient nominations were received from the departments. A motion was made and passed to use the slate as the RP&A nominees to the Faculty Senate.

6. Discussion of transfer credits earned by students when serving in the military

Military personnel are earning credits for coursework while on active duty. A referral to the Curriculum Committee was made to research the sources of the credits and recommend policies for transferring the credits.

7. Discussion of the benefit survey

Professor Schulz will request Professor Dubroff or Bryant, representatives to the Benefits Committee, to report on the benefit survey at the 22 April Faculty Senate meeting.

8. Representative to the Committee for Restructuring Awards

A motion was made and passed to nominate Professor Raper to serve as the S&T faculty representative to the Committee for Restructuring Awards.

9. Standing committee reports

Professor Sotiriou-Leventis indicated that the Personnel Committee was nearing completion of a report for the referral concerning spousal conflict of interest.

Professor Raper indicated that deliberations for the referral to the Student Affairs Committee concerning the process by which student organizations are formally recognized was complete. The committee will make a report at the 22 April Faculty Senate meeting and propose a resolution that insures faculty involvement in the recognition process. The report was added to the agenda.

Professor Westenberg indicated that the Public Occasions Committee had been requested to consider the elimination of Family Day as a public occasion.

Professor Nisbett announced that the Curriculum Committee has been informed of plans to renumber all courses.

10. Draft of Academic Integrity Statement

The draft version of the Academic Integrity Statement was referred to the Student Affairs Committee for review.

11. Discussion of budget issues

Professor Gelles reported that the Committee of Department Chairs had questioned the disproportionate share of the proposed budget cuts assigned to the academic units. Increased enrollments would suggest budget increases, rather than cuts, in these units.

12. Adjourn