

Five-Year Annual Review
Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee

by
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April 2001

As stated in the Committee on Committees Standing Rules, "The Chair of each (Faculty Senate) Committee/Council shall, at five-year intervals, report to the Committee on Committees about its activities. This report must demonstrate activities that have enhanced the functions and objectives of the Senate. When no clearly useful functions can be identified, the abolishment of the Committee/Council shall be recommended."

The Committee on Committees was charged by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to begin five-year reviews of Committee/Councils starting last year. In 2000-2001 the Committee on Committees chose to review the Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee using the following criteria:

1. Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function and composition of this Committee?
2. Have the Committee's actions/function, as reported in the annual reports and by consulting with the current Chair and Committee, been consistent with their Standing Rules?
3. Do the annual reports provide a memory of the issues this Committee addressed, their activities, and any outcomes?
4. What has been the role/benefit of student members?
5. What connection is there to the University's strategic goals?

The findings of the Committee on Committees are:

1. The Standing Rules were last updated June 2000. They are clear and succinct reflecting the function and activities of the committee.
2. I reviewed annual reports for this committee from 1996-97, 1997-1998, 1998-99, and 1999-2000. The 1996-97 report verifies the merger of the Retirement Committee and the Faculty Benefits Committee to form the Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee. The standing rules charge the committee with providing advice, stating policy, providing information, and making recommendations in reference to the welfare of both active and retired faculty. All actions/functions of the committee appear to be in congruence with their standing rules.
3. The annual reports provide a paper trail of issues addressed, the committee's activities, concerns and outcomes. There seems to be a reoccurring discussion regarding PEBB issues (increasing costs system wide coupled with a loss of medical plan options and coverage area) and faculty salary compensation (lowest among our peers). I can't stress enough the importance this committee provides in understanding issues and presenting information to OUS and PEBB, as well as corresponding with central administration and the Faculty Senate regarding peer analysis of faculty/staff benefit packages, faculty salary compensation, and retirement options.
4. There are no student members on this committee. This seems appropriate.
5. The work on this committee has a direct connection to the University's strategic goals. Faculty compensation and benefits will directly affect the ability of the University to achieve a compelling learning experience, "top-tier" university status, and promote the State as our campus.