Five-Year Annual Review Faculty Mediation Committee

by

Flaxen Conway, Committee on Committees March 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 fiveyear reviews of Committee/Councils starting last year. The Committee on Committees chose to review the Committees/Councils alphabetically. For 2000-2001, the following Committees/Councils were chosen for review:

Baccalaureate Core Committee Computing Resources Committee Curriculum Council Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee Faculty Grievance Committee Faculty Mediation Committee

The following criteria were used in reviewing this Committee:

- 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 1995. They are very clear and succinct.
- 2. I reviewed annual reports for this committee from 1995-96, 1996-97, and 1999-2000. The reports were brief and informative. All activities appear to be in congruence with their standing rules. Note: there were no annual reports available for 1997-1998 and 1998-99.
- 3. Although some years were missing, the annual reports have been helpful. Their format has been standard over the years.
- 4. There are no student members on this committee. This seems appropriate.
- 5. The work on this committee appears to have direct connection to the University's strategic goals (compelling learning, "top-tier" university, and the State as the campus) as this function serves all University faculty, on or off campus.