

Faculty Senate

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Committee on Committees

Annual Report 2008-2009

MEMBERSHIP

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Mary Strickroth '10, Chair | Graduate School |
| Kim Calvery '09 | Business Affairs |
| Margaret Mellinger '09 | Libraries |
| Paul Primak '10 | International Programs |
| Louie Bottaro '11 | Liberal Arts Advising |
| Eugene Zhang '11 | Electrical Engineering & Computer Science |

Student Member - ASOSU Executive Director of Committees: Meagan Thomas
Executive Committee Liaison - Kim McAlexander

The primary purpose of the Committee on Committees is to maintain a continuing study of the structure and effectiveness of University councils and committees and of their relationship to responsibilities of the Faculty Senate; to propose and review proposals for new Senate standing committees; and to make recommendations on committee reorganization and functions to appropriate Senate and University officers.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of the Committee on Committees met on November 12, 2008 to review our standing rules, the tasks to be conducted for the current year, and to outline a plan for completing this year's assignments. Committee members agreed to meet face-to-face with relevant committee chairs in the conduct of the 5-year reviews that were scheduled for 2008-09.

Five Faculty Senate Committees were scheduled for review and Committee on Committee members were assigned as follows:

- Academic Advising Council - Paul Primak
- Research Council - Margaret Mellinger
- Student Recognition & Awards - Kim Calvery & Meagan Thomas
- Undergraduate Admissions Committee - Louis Bottaro
- University Honors Council - Eugene Zhang

Members of the Committee on Committees proposed an additional question about diversity be added to this list of review questions to determine the connection of the Faculty Senate committee to the institution's diversity objectives. The chair of the Committee on Committees met with the Executive Committee to present the rationale for this change. The Executive Committee enthusiastically endorsed adding the diversity question and saw it as a means to connect faculty governance to institutional diversity goals. In addition, the Executive Committee asked that revisions be made to two existing review questions. The following questions were then used to frame each 5-Year Review discussion with relevant committee chairs (revisions and additional question in bold):

1. Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function & composition of this committee?

2. Have the committee's actions/function, as reported in the annual reports and based on consultation 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 the student members?
5. What connection is there to the University's strategic plan?
6. To what extent does the committee add value to the university **and/or faculty governance**?
7. If the chair believes the committee does not add value, **please explain and address the question as to whether the committee should continue to exist.**
8. **Does this committee's work enhance OSU's commitment to diversity? If so, how?**

At the beginning of the year, the chair of the Committee on Committees was asked to meet with the chair of the Faculty Status Committee for the purpose of reaffirming statements made in the prior FSC annual report with regard to issues of redundancy. The CoC chair was also asked to verify the FSC's reported perspective that the FSC should be abolished, and if so, to seek input on two additional points: 1) the appropriate Faculty Senate committee location of responsibility on matters pertaining to academic freedom; and 2) how the subsequent vacancy on the Faculty Consultative Group might be filled if the FSC were to be abolished. On November 13, the CoC chair was asked by the Faculty Senate President-Elect to wait until after the current Faculty Senate President had the opportunity to discuss the issue with the Provost. No further action was taken by the Committee on Committees during the reporting period.

FACULTY SENATE 5-YEAR REVIEW REPORTS

Reports of the Five-Year Committee Review are appended to this annual report as follows:

[Appendix A](#) - Research Council

[Appendix B](#) - University Honors College Council

[Appendix C](#) - Undergraduate Admissions Committee

[Appendix D](#) - Student Recognition and Awards Committee

[Appendix E](#) - Academic Advising Council

REVIEW OF STANDING RULES

The Committee on Committees reviewed Standing Rules revisions for the following Faculty Senate Committees:

- **Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee** - revisions included deleting the reference that the committee assists the President in making presentation of awards; and approval of proposed changes to add new members: a) one from the OSU Alumni Association Board of Directors for their Distinguished Professor Award; b) a representative from both the Research Office and University Advancement to participate in the OSU Impact Award for Outstanding Scholarship; and c) a member of the Research Council for the selection of the Promising Scholar Award. The Committee on Committees recommended approval of these changes and noted the additional selection committee members would bring added expertise, knowledge, and perspective that closely align with the focus of these awards. Their participation may increase the potential to advance the award program goals more effectively; increase the potential to improve award program guidelines as needs arise; and may bring relevant insight to these selection processes. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate June 11, 2009.
- **Faculty Mediator** - revisions included removing language from the Standing Rules that already exist in the current OSU Faculty Handbook and the Oregon Administrative Rule 576-050-0020; adding new language to clarify how the Faculty Mediator becomes engaged in the process, the role and scope of the Faculty Mediator, and the purpose of mediation beyond that which is articulated in the Faculty Handbook and the OAR; and adding language to emphasize the objectivity and confidentiality to be maintained by the Faculty Mediator and directing the mediator to provide both parties a copy of the Faculty Mediation Standing Rules to ensure informed consent regarding the mediator's role and purpose of the mediation. The Committee on Committees recommended approval. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate June 11, 2009.
- **Academic Advising Council** - revisions included clarification of the scope of the Academic Advising Council as being limited to issues of undergraduate advising; specifying that a change in Standing Rules would be required to add or delete a voting member; delineating voting membership as including one representative from each academic college that advises undergraduates, as well as a representative from OSU Cascades, the Honors College and University Exploratory Studies Program; and calling for one vote per service unit involved in undergraduate advising or support for undergraduate advising. The Committee on Committees recommended approval noting the revisions align membership structure

to match the university's org chart, eliminate graduate-only colleges as voting members, the number of voting members from 27 to 20 for efficiency purposes, and rebalance the voting ratio to 60% academic units and 40% service units. A five-year review of the AAC was conducted earlier this year and nothing in this proposal contradicts or is incongruent with findings from that review process. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate June 11, 2009.

OTHER BUSINESS

Members of the Committee on Committees were asked to provide comment on several revisions to the Academic Regulations:

- AR17 - Grades
- AR25i - Institutional Requirements for Baccalaureate Degrees - Application for the Degree
- AR 20 - Repeated Courses
- AR20 - Repeated Courses (second revision)
- AR23 - Special Examination for Credit
- AR24 - Special Examination for Waiver (Undergraduate Students)
- AR31 - Academic Absolution Policy
- AR31 - Academic Absolution Policy (second revision)

Members of the Committee on Committees also were asked to consider Jon Dorbolo's proposal for solidarity (temporary pay reductions issue).

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