

Faculty Senate

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Committee on Committees

Annual Report 2009-2010

MEMBERSHIP

Mary Strickroth '10, Chair	Graduate School
Paul Primak '10	International Programs
Louie Bottaro '11	Liberal Arts Advising
Eugene Zhang '11	Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
Bill Loges '12	New Media Communications
Roger Rennekamp '12	4-H Youth Development

Student Member - ASOSU Executive Director of Committees: Brittney Williamson
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 2, 2009 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 five-year reviews that were scheduled for 2009-10.

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

- Academic Regulations - Louie Bottaro
- Academic Requirements - Eugene Zhang and Brittany Williamson
- Academic Standing - Bill Loges
- Administrative Appointments - Roger Rennekamp
- Advancement of Teaching - Paul Primak

The following questions were then used to frame each 5-Year Review discussion with relevant committee chairs:

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](#) - Academic Regulations Committee
- [Appendix B](#) - Academic Requirements Committee
- [Appendix C](#) - Academic Standing Committee
- [Appendix D](#) - Administrative Appointments Committee
- [Appendix E](#) - Advancement of Teaching Committee

REVIEW OF STANDING RULES

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

- **Diversity Council** - revision included adding language to reflect the Diversity Council's function went beyond simply making recommendations on diversity issues and that the Council could now actually work on such issues in conjunction with the Faculty Senate. The Committee on Committees recommended approval of these changes, noting that Diversity Council members are eager to do more than they have to date and they would like their standing rules to reflect this added function. In addition to the changes proposed by the Diversity Council, the Committee on Committees recommended adding "staff" to the 2nd sentence of the standing rules recognizing that OSU's diversity initiatives affect all members of the campus community. Other minor editorial changes were made for improved readability. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate April 8, 2010.
- **Computing Resources Committee** - revision adds an ex-officio member to the CRC from the Technology Across the Curriculum (TAC.) Instructional issues have always been at the core of what the CRC does and inclusion of TAC is essential. Revision also requires the CRC chair to serve as an ex-officio member to the Information Technology Coordinating Committee which provides a forum for sharing among units responsible for deploying and maintaining campus IT infrastructure. The Committee on Committees recommended additional changes to remove unintended redundancy by CRC with regard to ITCC involvement. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate April 8, 2010.
- **Curriculum Council** - revision intended to emphasize the Curriculum Council's purpose for ensuring high quality academic programs for students, and the efficiency and effectiveness needed in the curricular review process. Other revisions were made to enable as many academic colleges to be represented as possible such that broad disciplinary perspective would be included on this Council. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate April 8, 2010.
- **Promotion & Tenure Committee** - revision intended to clarify the current role the P&T Committee plays in the promotion and tenure process and the timing in which the committee currently is involved with that process. As to the role, the committee's involvement goes beyond mere observation. They actually participate in the discussion with University Administrative Promotion and Tenure Committee, the unit supervisor, and college dean. As to the timing, participation in these discussions takes place before the final P&T decision is made by the University Administrative Promotion and Tenure Committee. Lastly, the P&T Committee has access to read the dossiers. Presented to and passed by the Faculty Senate on May 13, 2010.
- **Academic Standing Committee** - revision is intended to enable the Provost's designee to act on his/her behalf with regard to appeals to the Academic Standing Committee's decisions. Members of the Committee on Committees recommended consideration of clarifying language regarding the following points:
 1. specify two or three administrators close to the provost's level of authority who are the sole available designees. While members of the Academic Standing Committee are not required to be

- ranked faculty, we recommend that only people with substantial classroom experience be eligible to serve as the provost's designees; and
2. specify the circumstances under which this designation can be made to prevent it from becoming routine such as when the provost is away from campus (due to other work demands, vacation, illness, or disability) or has a conflict of interest with the case under appeal. A designee also would be subject to the same ban if a conflict of interest exists with the appellant.

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