

Five Year Annual Review Graduate Council

Faculty Senate Committee on Committees
June 7, 2002

This review of the Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee is submitted in accordance with the duties of the Committee on Committees to review each Faculty Senate Committee at five- year intervals, using the following five criteria established by the Faculty Senate:

1. Do the Standing Rules clearly reflect the function and composition of this Committee?
2. Have the Committee's actions/functions, 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 Committee on Committees reports that:

1. The Standing Rules for the Graduate Council were last updated in June of 1999 and clearly reflect the function of the committee. The faculty composition of the Graduate Council is diverse and meets the criteria set forth in its Standing Rules. The Council has consistently had student representation over the period reviewed except for half of 1999-2000 when the student member resigned and the position remained unfilled.
2. The Graduate Council has completely fulfilled its charge described in the Standing Rules as documented in its annual reports and by consulting with the past Chair.
3. The annual reports were complete, detailed and helpful in reconstructing the issues addressed, their outcomes and the future plans of the Council. In conversation with the current chair of the Council, Vince Remcho, he pointed out that the business of the Council is concentrated in the spring quarter. Graduate program reviews are time-intensive and become burdensome when they all fall at the end of the academic year. Possible solutions would be to distribute the work load of the Council more evenly over the year. In addition, consideration should be given to the prospect of changing the cycle currently being used to review Graduate programs. Finally, it was suggested that former members of the Graduate Council be formally requested to serve as ad hoc members on reviews or follow-up reviews of those Graduate programs that they had reviewed during their original tenure on the Graduate Council.
4. The annual reports of the Graduate Council indicate that there has been consistent student representation on the Council. The student member had a role in the Council's business and decisions.
5. The Graduate Council has jurisdiction over the policies, procedures and requirements of graduate education at Oregon State University. In doing so, the Council is strongly connected to all three of the University's stated goals including: extending the University into every community in Oregon, providing a compelling learning experience, and helping the University become a top-tier institution.

Submitted by Robert Mason, Department of Zoology, for the Committee on Committees