

Report to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Submitted on 3/1/17

by Richard Gronostajski

Faculty Senate Committee on Bylaws

Charge: This committee shall review, report and recommend to the senate matters concerning amendments to the Charter of the faculty senate and to the bylaws of the voting faculty, and matters concerning bylaws, standing orders and special orders of the senate.

Roster: Richard Gronostajski, James Hassett, Cynthia Tysick and Phil Glick (ex officio)

Report Date: 3/1/17

Last Report 3/2/16

Meeting History (meeting dates, conference calls, major discussions):

The Bylaws committee has not met in person this calendar year. We have communicated by e-mail. Since the purpose of the committee is to respond to requests from the Faculty Senate regarding amendments to the Charter and/or Bylaws and/or Standing Orders and Special Orders, and no requests were made, no meetings were scheduled. There was one request (see below) that does not require changes to the Bylaws but could be implemented by changes in the Standing Orders for FSEC if desired.

Major Objectives:

We were asked by e-mail on 11/4/16 to consider the following from Phil Glick and Matthew Steilen;

“1. The basic problem as I understand it is that faculty senators lack information about the challenges associated with implementing a resolution under consideration in the senate. Those challenges may include (a) transforming a resolution into a specific policy that can be executed; (b) integrating a resolution into the existing body of university policies; (c) identifying and answering legal questions raised by a resolution; and (d) answering objections of administrators to the substance of the resolution.

2. Consultation before passage of a resolution and reconciliation after passage may help to address those challenges. Mechanisms for consulting or reconciling that were discussed in FSEC include:

(a) ensuring that at least one member of FSEC is appointed to each faculty senate committee;

(b) ensuring that an administrator is appointed on an ex officio basis to each faculty senate committee.

(c) ensuring that an administrator asked to convert a resolution into a policy make an oral presentation to FSEC detailing objections and concerns.

(d) ensuring that administrative concerns be expressed in the form of a written document, distributed to FSEC, ideally before denial of a resolution.

(e) ensuring that each resolution passed by the faculty senate include a provision explaining the “suitable rationale” for implementation of the resolution, and that the rationale evidence that faculty are fully informed about, and have considered, budget and legal issues raised by the resolution.”

Emerging Objectives:

None

Potential Work Products or Milestones for Completion of Objectives	<p>It is the opinion of the Bylaws committee that none of these issues need to be addressed in the Bylaws, Charter or the Standing Orders for FSEC. Some or all can all be implemented by FSEC at the time of committee constitution since FSEC approves all committee members.</p> <p>If desired FSEC could modify their Standing Orders to include some or all of these suggestions but this is not necessary for implementation.</p>
Timeline for Completion of Objectives:	<p>Completed</p>
Specific actions requiring FSEC approval	<p>None, or modification of Standing Orders if desired.</p>
FSEC Comments:	