Senate Statutes and Bylaws Committee
MINUTES
January 24, 2002

Members present: Pam Barr, Murray Brown, Amy Lederberg, Roger Presley, Alaa Rahman.

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Murray Brown, at 2:05 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the November minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

The next item of business was a proposal from George Rainbolt regarding the approval of proposals by the Admissions and Standards Committee and the full Senate. Dr. Rainbolt had asked for feedback from others, as his committee was ambivalent about changing the approval process. The Statutes and Bylaws Committee reviewed the charge of the Admissions and Standards Committee as stated in the Senate Bylaws. It was agreed that many of the items brought to the full Senate by Admissions and Standards might seem like inconsequential matters but actually bring about discussion that shows that many issues affect different colleges in different ways. Dr. Brown agreed to ask George Rainbolt to the next meeting. He will send Dr. Rainbolt a note summarizing this committee's discussion and will ask him to bring suggested language changes to the next S&B meeting.

Dr. Brown updated the committee on the status of the proposal to add the Committee of Chairs as a standing committee to the Senate Bylaws. He explained that Dr. de Castro is planning to bring the proposal to the Executive Committee for review and approval. Dr. Lederberg asked if it would be going to the Executive Committee with the notation that the Statutes and Bylaws Committee did not approve the proposal. There was some discussion about the November 15 Statutes and Bylaws Committee at which a vote was taken on this proposal. At that meeting, the committee voted unanimously against the proposal.

There was continued discussion on the issue of the proposal and on the issue of the Committee of Chairs in general. It was agreed that Dr. Brown would put together a summary of the committee’s objections to the proposal and forward it to Dr. de Castro for distribution to the Executive Committee prior to their next meeting on February 5. After further discussion, it was decided that Dr. Brown, Dr. Lederberg, and Dr. Marshall would meet to draft this statement of the committee’s opinion. Once drafted, Dr. Brown would forward it to Dr. de Castro for consideration at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The next item discussed was the status of the proposal from Cultural Diversity regarding staff membership to the Senate. At present, Dr. Gallant has taken the proposal back as she is waiting on some additional input from the Staff Advisory Council and then it will be taken to the full Cultural Diversity Committee for approval at its February meeting. There is some question as to whether the proposal will come back to Statutes and Bylaws for review or if it will go directly to the Executive Committee. Dr. Brown stated that he would contact Christine Gallant regarding the status of the proposal and remind her that it should go through Statutes and Bylaws next.

The next item of business was a discussion of Provost Office representation on certain Senate standing committees. There are four committees (Cultural Diversity, IS&T, Library Advisory, and Planning and Development) that specify the representative by a title that no longer exists. The discussion centered on the best way to name that representative in the Bylaws. There were several suggestions for language. It was agreed that Mary Nell Stone would contact Provost Henry and ask him for his opinion on this issue. The committee will discuss this at its February meeting.

Since there was no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,
Committee Assistant