Senate Statutes and Bylaws Committee
MINUTES
November 21, 2002

Members present: Murray Brown, Conrad Ciccotello, Dan Franklin, Amy Lederberg, Peter Lyons, John Marshall, Ellen Podgor, Roger Presley, Marti Singer, Neven Valev, Tracy Van Voris.

Members absent: Tim Crimmins, Ed Palmer, Kimberly Smith, Susan Talburt, Carol Winkler.

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Murray Brown, at 10:37 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the October minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

Dr. Brown informed the committee that there had been an Arts and Sciences senators’ caucus the day before. At this meeting, the issue of staff membership on the Senate was discussed. Dr. Brown summarized their discussion. Dr. Brown stated that he felt the caucus agreed that the proposed ten staff senators should come from SAC. Dr. Brown went over the minor changes that were suggested by the caucus. Dr. Brown stated that the original proposal sent forward by the subcommittee chaired by Tim Crimmins needed to be withdrawn and the revised proposal which will include the agreed upon changes will be sent forward to the Executive Committee. A motion to withdraw the original proposal was made and seconded. The question was called and the motion passed.

John Marshall suggested that the language that states how the staff senators are to be selected be changed from “from and by SAC” to “by SAC”. That would allow SAC to ask non-SAC representatives to serve as staff senators if they chose to do so. The committee agreed to make this change to the proposal. The committee made some other minor language changes to the text. Amy Lederberg suggested adding a section D. to Article VI of the Statutes to parallel the text in section C. that stipulates that the president of the SGA shall be a member. This addition would stipulate that the president of the SAC would be a staff senator and the remaining nine would be elected by the SAC. This amendment was accepted. A motion was made and seconded to approve this revised proposal to add staff to the Senate. The question was called. The motion passed.

The next item of business was a discussion of the status of the proposal from the Executive Committee regarding the “25% rule” (Univ. Statutes Article VI. Section 4). Dr. Brown called on Amy Lederberg to talk about a suggested change to the text. Dr. Lederberg summarized a conversation she had with Christine Gallant last summer regarding protecting faculty interests on Senate committees. Dr. Gallant is proposing adding the term “elected faculty” to the text that stipulates the “majority rule”. Dr. Lederberg mentioned that smaller colleges often put faculty who are not Senators on committees in order to fill all of the college’s slots. This change might make that practice harder to do. It was agreed to discuss this further at a later date.

Since there was no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,
Committee Assistant