Senate Statutes and Bylaws Committee
MINUTES
November 17, 2004

Members present: Tim Crimmins, Sandra Garber, Doug Goans, Amy Lederberg, Peter Lyons, John Marshall, Mark Rider, Marti Singer, Andy Sumner, Carol Winkler.

Members absent: Jeff Ashby, Dan Franklin, Denise Kosmetatos, Tom Lewis, Corneill Stephens.

Guest: Tourgee Simpson.

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Amy Lederberg, at 9:34 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the October minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Dr. Lederberg began today’s discussion with a summary of the guidelines agreed on at the October meeting. There was some discussion of the language used in some of the principles. Some committee members stated that the guidelines could be made clearer. Dr. Lederberg will incorporate the suggested changes and circulate another draft for everyone’s review.

Next, specific committees were discussed. The first one reviewed was the Library Advisory Committee. The committee recommended that the word “advisory” be taken out of its title. Next the discussion turned to the Nominations Report template and the way some committee members are listed “above the line” and “below the line”. The “at least” language was discussed. At present, the University Librarian doesn’t vote on committee matters because the committee is charged to be an advisory body to her. There was discussion on whether that should be written in to the membership.

The “at least” language in the membership of the Admissions and Standards Committee was reviewed. There was some discussion of the committee’s duties. It appears that Admissions and Standards and APACE have duties that overlap. It was agreed that the Executive Committee should step in and decide which committee handles which duties. There was discussion on whether the Provost should remain on Admissions and Standards or whether he should appoint an administrator instead. Since he chairs a major subcommittee of the committee, it would be more transparent to have him remain on the committee as a whole. Codifying subcommittees and their memberships was discussed.

Next Dr. Lederberg called on Tourgee Simpson, SGA President, to address the committee. Mr. Simpson summarized the difficulty that the SGA president has in placing student senators on the various committees. Students have to work around their class schedules. He would like to be able to pull student committee members from the whole SGA senate (approximately 30 members) and not just the 10 student senators. After some discussion, it was suggested that Mr. Simpson prepare a proposal for Statutes and Bylaws to discuss and review.

The Research Committee was the next committee examined. It was decided that the committee should be asked if the VP for Finance and Administration should appoint someone or appoint an office (comptroller) in his division as a representative on this committee. Since the VP for Research sits on this committee, it’s not necessary that the Provost remain on the committee as well. Discussion centered on the number of committee members that should be specified in the Bylaws. The phrase “with any additional members elected at large” will be added.

Discussion began on the membership of the Planning and Development Committee. Carol Winkler stressed that P&D has an extremely large workload and the committee needs to have plenty of Senators to handle it. It was agreed that an exception should be made for this committee and that the two added Associate Provosts should be voting members. Dr. Winkler strongly supports P&D’s recommendation to have 33 faculty members specified. Since P&D’s duties have expanded over the last few years, the committee agreed to make that exception. It was agreed that the last line in section A concerning the percentage of faculty by college should be struck.

The next committee to be considered was the Nominations Committee. Because it was near the end of the meeting time, it was agreed to discuss it first at the December meeting. Since there was no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 10:57 a.m.
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,
Committee Assistant