Members present: Tim Crimmins, Dan Franklin, MaryAnne Gaunt, Doug Goans, Eva Horne, Rick Lakes, John Marshall, Mark Rider, Mary Shoffner, Marti Singer, Carol Winkler.

Members absent: Perry Binder, Josh Evans, Tom Lewis, Corneill Stephens.

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Marti Singer, at 1:02 p.m. The first item of business was the approval of the October minutes. The minutes were approved as presented.

Dr. Singer introduced the next business item: reviewing the committee changes submitted by the various committees. There were no changes to the membership of the Academic Programs Committee. Changes to the Admissions and Standards Committee are pending; something will be submitted after its January meeting. Correspondence from the Athletics and Budget Committees could not be located. The Cultural Diversity Committee and the Executive Committee submitted no changes.

The Faculty Affairs Committee did submit a change: to add three more people to the committee as ex-officio members. It was unclear whether the committee intended these additional members to be voting members or not. Dr. Singer will ask the FAC chair for clarification on this point. Both the IS&T and the Library Committees submitted no changes.

There was much discussion on the changes submitted by the Nominations Committee. Questions were raised about the rationale for having three members from Arts and Sciences and not increasing any other college’s membership. It is assumed that the increase is due to the large workload of placing all the Arts and Sciences senators on the various committees. Dr. Singer will contact the Nominations chair for clarification and for a written rationale. It was suggested that two Arts and Sciences members would be workable.

The next committee discussed was Planning and Development. There was discussion about the changes in the number of committee members and also about the student representatives. Should the student reps be senators or appointments by the SGA? It was suggested that language be added to the Bylaws that excludes student senators/reps from counting in the ratio of elected versus non-elected senate members on committees. The Research Committee was reviewed next. It was suggested that there be a senator from the University Library on this committee. There was discussion about the cap of 30 members on the committee. It was suggested to leave the language as “at least 26” and not have a cap. Dr. Singer will ask the chair for a statement of rationale for this proposed change.

Next, S&B reviewed its own membership list for possible changes. It was proposed and approved that the language be changed from “at least eight” to “at least seven” faculty members, one from each college/unit and that the Counseling Center be named [to read: “… and one from the University Library/Counseling Center”]. The Student Discipline Committee would like two more students added so that it will be easier to schedule a hearing. Dr. Singer will ask the chair to submit a rationale for this change.

The final committee reviewed was the Student Life and Development Committee. There was discussion about why a representative from the Legal Affairs Department should be added to this committee. It was agreed to change the word “representative” to “attorney” for clarification. Discussion then centered on how the ratio would be affected if the proposed changes were approved. It was agreed that there should be more discussion on how the student representatives should be assigned.

The next item of business came from the Executive Committee chair regarding grievance procedures. After some discussion it was suggested that language be added to the Bylaws (Article VII. Section 2: Hearing Committee) to address faculty grievances across two administrative units. After S&B drafts some language, the Faculty Affairs Committee should review the changes as well.

The next meeting of the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee will be on Thursday, January 26, at 1:00 p.m. in the Troy Moore Library. Since there was no further business, the chair adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,