

Constitution Committee

Minutes

Monday October 29, 2007
10:30 am 354 Tigert

Attendance:

Ferguson, Mary Ann
Griffin, Cynthia
Kwolek-Folland, Angel
Little, Joe
Martyniak, Cathy
Pagán, Victoria
Taylor, Tim
Wingo, Barbara

The meeting was called to order by Ferguson.

Approval of minutes was tabled.

Old Business:

Changes to the Constitution Re: General Education Committee

The committee voted unanimously to send three options to the Steering Committee regarding the General Education Committee. The options are:

A. The president shall appoint seven members to this committee, and the Senate will elect nine members. The Chair is elected by the Committee. Student government shall select two non-voting student members to serve ~~one~~one-year terms. The voting membership shall be composed of representatives from the majority of baccalaureate degree-granting colleges within the University. The General Education Committee establishes a philosophy of what constitutes the general education component for baccalaureate degrees offered by the University. It reviews, in accordance with the established criteria, all courses proposed to fulfill general education and Gordon Rule requirements. It makes recommendation to the Curriculum Committee regarding the continued effectiveness of the general education program.

B. The president shall appoint seven voting members to this committee, and the Senate will elect nine voting members. The Chair is elected by the Committee. Student government shall select two non-voting student members to serve one-year terms. All voting members appointed or elected must be from the baccalaureate degree-granting colleges of the University. Furthermore, the voting membership shall be composed of representatives from the majority of those colleges. The General Education Committee establishes a philosophy of what constitutes the general education component for baccalaureate degrees offered by the University. It reviews, in accordance with the established criteria, all courses proposed to fulfill general education and Gordon Rule requirements. It makes recommendation to the Curriculum Committee regarding the continued effectiveness of the general education program.

C. The President shall appoint seven members to this committee, but not more than one from any academic unit, and the Senate will elect nine members, but not more than one from any academic unit. The Chair is elected by the Committee. Student government shall select two non-voting student members to serve one-year terms. The voting membership shall be composed of representatives from the majority of baccalaureate degree-granting colleges within the University. The General Education Committee establishes a philosophy of what constitutes the general education component for baccalaureate degrees offered by the University. It reviews, in accordance with the established criteria, all courses proposed to fulfill general education and Gordon Rule requirements. It makes recommendation to the Curriculum Committee regarding the continued effectiveness of the general education program.

Wingo introduced the "Notice of Proposed Regulation" RE: revised tuition costs for undergraduate courses. The committee voted unanimously to forward this to the Steering Committee for consideration, marked as "red light."

The following three amendments to the minutes of the September meeting were approved unanimously: (1) correction: "Little made a motion for changes in wording to Senate Bylaw 20 B2b and B2c: *shall select two non-voting student members to serve one year terms.*" (2) addition: "Wingo pointed out an inconsistency in the By Laws that should be addressed by the Academic Freedom Committee regarding grievance procedures for non-tenure track faculty." (3) correction: "A motion passed unanimously that Ferguson update Yost on the issue of *ex officio* membership and that the Constitution Committee will send recommendations to the Steering Committee, for consideration at the November meeting."

The minutes of the September meeting were approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Review recommendations for Constitution changes from Angel and Barbara (The parts of the document with the recommended changes adopted ~~here is attached~~ will be attached.)

1. Motion passed unanimously to change the constitution and bylaw language to say "Chair" universally.
 2. Recommendations to Article I were accepted without change.
 3. Recommendations to Article II were accepted without change.
 4. Recommendations to Article III Sections 1, 2, 3, and 4 were accepted with the removal of "or the equivalent in academic rank"
 5. Recommendations to Article III Section 5 were accepted with the following changes: "5. ————"Promotion review shall originate in academic departments or units. The department chair or administrator of the academic department or unit concerned shall obtain the votes of the individual faculty members holding rank superior to that of the candidate for promotion."
 - ~~6. Recommendations to Article III Section 6 A and B were accepted without change.~~
- Recommendations to Article III Section 6 C 1 and 2 were accepted, with the following change:
- ~~7.6. ————"to strike the word "tenure" before "probationary"~~
 - 8.7. Recommendations to Article III Section 6 C 3-7, ~~and D~~ were accepted without change.

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Comment [mf1]: Didn't we agree to take out "in charge" here

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~~9.8.~~ Article III Section 6 E demanded discussion of the secret ballot ~~and for~~ compliance with the “sunshine” law and consistency with Section 5; the issue must be revisited for both here and in Article III, Section 5 regarding promotion.

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The following changes were proposed to Section 6 E 1:

~~10.9.~~ “Tenure review shall originate in academic departments or units. The department chair or administrator of the academic department or unit concerned shall obtain the votes of the tenured members of the department or unit by a secret ballot, the results of which shall be forwarded with the tenure application to the appropriate college and the President. The Board of Trustees grants tenure.

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~~14.10.~~ Recommendations to Article III Section 6 E 2 and 3 were accepted without change.

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Recommendations to Article III Section 6 F were accepted with the following change: Notice

~~12.11.~~ “~~Notice~~ of non-reappointment, or of intention not to reappoint, shall be given in writing in accordance with University policies.”

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~~13.12.~~ Article III Section 6 G demanded discussion. Is it appropriate for the Constitution Committee to include points ~~ag.~~-o, without consideration by the Senate as these come from Regulations that have not had Faculty Senate discussion? Ferguson asked that this matter be brought before the Steering Committee.

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~~14.13.~~ The rest of the recommendations to Article III Section 6 H, Sections ~~7~~ and 8 were accepted without change.

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The committee left off with this task at Article IV.

Members are reminded to bring calendars to the November meeting, to plan meeting dates for Spring semester.

The meeting adjourned at noon.
Respectfully submitted by Pagán

[Attachment: Constitution with changes adopted by Constitution Committee 10-29-07](#)