

University Constitution Committee

Minutes

Thursday March 8, 2006
3:00-5:00 PM 354 Tigert Hall

Attendees:

Cynthia Griffin
Cathy Martyniak
Mary Ann Ferguson
Joe Little
Angel Kwolek-Folland

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM
The minutes of the February meeting were approved.

Rectifying inconsistencies in Regulations, Constitution and Faculty Senate Bylaws Part 2

Joe Little moved to accept the proposed change in Senate Bylaw 7 B 2. The motion was approved.

Composition and Jurisdiction: The Committee on Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Standards and Ethics shall be a standing committee of the Faculty Senate as set forth in Article V, §4(A) (changed from III 6 b) of the University Constitution. The Committee shall have jurisdiction to hold hearings and make findings of fact, conclusions of law and recommendations in matters involving University practices bearing upon academic freedom or tenure, and University practices generally applicable to faculty members bearing upon professional ethics or the general welfare of the faculty. Such proceedings may be commenced by the University President through charges filed by the same or by a faculty member individually affected by the alleged practices.

Joe Little moved to make consistent throughout the constitution and bylaws, all references to the University of Florida Regulations. The motion was approved.

Joe Little moved to accept the rule to regulation changes throughout the constitution and bylaws. The motion was approved.

Joe Little moved to add a note in Senate Bylaw 13 3 that consideration should be given to including language giving the Senate initiating power.

The periodic evaluations shall be conducted by one of the following bodies, as deemed appropriate by the Provost in consultation with the dean or director and representative faculty members of the unit being evaluated by:

- (a) *A visitation team representing the national accrediting agency of the unit being evaluated.*

(b) *A special committee appointed by the Provost for purposes of conducting the evaluation.*

Note: consider language giving senate initiating power.

Joe Little moved to accept the change in Senate Bylaw 13 4 C. The bylaw will now read “with particular reference to the procedures set forth in article VI of the University Constitution.”

The committee shall evaluate the entire program of the unit, giving special attention to the particular needs and problems of the unit and the quality of leadership shown with particular reference to the procedures set forth in Article VI of the University Constitution. The report of the committee shall contain appropriate recommendations to the Provost based upon findings of this periodic evaluation, including a specific recommendation concerning the continuation of the dean or director in his or her administrative capacity.

The constitution committee agreed to defer all other changes until the April meeting when Barbara Wingo will be present.

The committee noted that Senate Bylaw 18 8 should be reviewed due to a seemingly missing piece.

In cases where a department or departments or a program is evaluated by reviewers appointed by an external agency, the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall consult with the appropriate administrative officers, including the chairperson or chairpersons and the faculty of the department. Departments or program concerned to determine whether such external reviews should be used as the periodic departmental evaluations provided for in Article VII, Section 3 of the Constitution of the University of Florida and in Paragraph 1 of this Bylaw. Determine what is missing here.

Joe Little moved to have the Committee on Committees give their opinion on Senate Bylaw 20 D 5 regarding term lengths on committees. The motion was approved.

Unless otherwise provided, Senate and Joint committee members may be elected for successive terms when their experience or special talents make reappointment advantageous to the University, but as opportunity offers, changes should be made in the elected personnel of every Senate and Joint committee. [May need further review.] COC will review.

The DRO item will be on the April Constitution Committee agenda.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 PM