

**Senate Steering Committee  
Minutes  
October 12, 2006  
3:00 - 5:00 P.M.  
226 Tigert**

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**Attendees:**

Danaya Wright  
Rebecca Pauly  
Sandra Chance  
Kim Tanzer  
Chris Snodgrass  
Pradeep Kumar

Peggy Carr  
Barbara Wingo  
Amelia Hugus

**Guests:**

John Leavey  
Carol Kem

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM

**Reports:**

▪ **Chair's Report**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

Dr. Wright updated the Steering committee about the recent ACFS meeting where the BOG will move forward with a resolution that would allow the BOT to apply for tuition independence from the legislature. The constitutional amendments were approved which means that the chair of the ACFS (who also sits on the BOG) is a renewable term. Dr. Wright also told the committee about a financial planner who offered to host a holiday party for the Senate's December meeting in exchange for being able to advertise his services at the event. The steering committee declined the offer. The Steering committee discussed the compensation committee elections and the research policy committee elections. The steering committee decided to appoint the compensation committee members to serve a one year ad-hoc term and include the compensation committee in the spring committee elections. The research policy committee representatives will also be appointed for one year terms and will be included in the general elections in the spring. All names will be brought before the steering committee for a final decision.

The committee also discussed the dean search committee language. The committee decided that the Shared Governance Task Force shall be charged with developing procedures for forming search committees for deans, directors and department chairs.

**Information Items:**

▪ **Honorary Degrees Recommendations**

**John Leavey, Committee on Committees Chair**

Dr. Leavey explained that the COC felt that honorary degrees are purely a faculty issue and should have faculty input. There should be another committee established (either joint or presidential) to work on the other issues that the committee currently handles. The COC does not want the names routed to the President before going to the Senate. Dr. Wingo noted that splitting the committees resolves some issues regarding the sunshine laws because the presidential committee could be a fact finding committee; honorary degrees are still in the sunshine. One way to facilitate the process would be to have the nominees go to the President's office first to determine if the person will accept the degree, if granted. Dr. Leavey noted that the COC specifically feels that if the honorary degrees do not go to the committee first then they do not want to work on honorary degrees at all. Dr. Wingo noted

that the committee could invite Dr. Machen to attend a meeting in order to discuss his thoughts on candidates with the committee. This item will not be on the agenda for October.

- **CLAS Resolution**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

The Steering committee decided to present the CLAS resolution as presented at the September Senate meeting.

- **Library Closing for Games**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

Dr. Wright will inform the Provost that the steering committee would like to be kept informed of library closing plans and that if the library shall be closed on game days then it should be for a legitimate reason, such as low usage, not just because of football.

- **AFTPRSC Grievance Recommendations and DRO job description**

The steering committee does not yet have an answer from the President or Kyle Cavanaugh regarding these issues, and they will not be on the October Senate agenda.

### **Action Items:**

#### **Approval of Senate Agenda for the October 19, 2006 meeting**

**Danaya Wright, Chair**

The agenda for the October 19, 2006 meeting was approved with the removal of the compensation committee language which will be presented in November.

The meeting adjourned at 4:57 PM.