COMMITTEE: Committee on Committees

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, February 3, 2015

PERSON PRESIDING: Charles Boklage

REGULAR MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Margaret Bauer, Charles Boklage, Crystal Chambers, Edson Justiniano, Derek Maher, Jeff Popke

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Andrew Morehead, Mark Sprague, Britton Theurer

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Lori Lee

ACTIONS OF MEETING

Agenda Item: Analyze composition of faculty senate committees to ensure compliance with bylaws change extending faculty senate committee membership to fixed term faculty, while limiting the number of faculty senate representative fixed term faculty on any committee to two and maintaining a majority of tenured/probationary term faculty on each committee.

Discussion: A concern was raised that in a number of larger committees with appointments made by administration for reasons of expertise, the majority of committee members could be non-tenured/probationary track employees as a result of the bylaws change. Committees of concern for reasons of composition are Distance Education and Learning Technology, Service Learning, Budget and University Environment.

Methods for remediation discussed were to: 1) Reclassify one ex-officio member on each of these committees as resource officers and restrict their vote; 2) Reduce the number of fixed term members on those committees to one; or 3) Increase the number of tenured/probationary term faculty on each committee by one.

An additional concern raised by Faculty Governance is the potential for undue influences of probationary and fixed term faculty in areas core to the governance of the university, committees in which faculty and administration interests may diverge. Committees of concern listed were EPPC, Governance, FCIE, Unit Code Screening Committee, and University Budget. Currently only Governance and the Appellate Committees are limited to tenured faculty. COC identified only EPPC and University Budget as committees of potential concern.

Action Taken: Motion by Bauer, seconded by Justiano to restrict faculty membership of Budget and EPPC to tenured faculty. Motion carried by a plurality of the voting membership.

Motion by Felts, seconded by Justiano to give Distance Education and Learning Technology, Service Learning, and University Environment the option to remediate their committee structures by:

1) Reclassifying one ex-officio member on each of these committees as resource officers and restrict their vote;
2) Reducing the number of fixed term members on those committees to one; or
3) Increasing the number of tenured/probationary term faculty on each committee by one.
Motion carried by a plurality of the voting membership.

NEXT MEETING: 3/3/15

ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED ....
1. Prepare committee membership nominations