Committee: Committee on Committees

Meeting Date: 25 October 2005

Person Presiding: Henry Ferrell

Regular Members in Attendance: Michelle Elbe, Henry Ferrell, Paul Gares, Ralph Scott, Mark Taggart

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance: Catherine Rigsby

Others in Attendance: Lori Lee

Observing a quorum present Professor Ferrell called the meeting to order at 3:04p.m.

Agenda Item #1: Approval of the Minutes of the September meeting of the Committee on Committees

Professor Ferrell called for a review of the minutes of the September meeting of the Committee. Hearing no changes or corrections to the minutes he ruled that they were approved as submitted by the Secretary.

Agenda Item #2: Request of the Ad Hoc Greenspace Committee for conversion to a standing committee of the Faculty Senate

Professors Ferrell and Rigsby led a discussion of the possible conversion of the Ad Hoc Greenspace Committee to a regular Faculty Senate Committee. Ferrell spoke about the changes that resulted in the current committee structure. He noted that "committees work much better now." He cited several examples of committees that had troubles regarding quorums, agenda items etc., in the past that had been corrected in the new structure. He noted that currently committees were structured according to 1) function and 2) form. Rigsby noted also that committees were also doing better under the current system. She noted that there were good people in charge of the committees and that they had good committee charges. She presented a request that the Ad Hoc Greenspace Committee be converted into a permanent Faculty Senate Committee. Ferrell noted that membership on the administrative level should remain at the Vice Chancellor level as this had worked to advantage of all concerned. It was noted that we need to find another name for this committee that was more comprehensive. It was suggested that the University Budget Committee had worked well during the past year, and that it might serve a model for the proposed committee. Discussion followed. Professor Gares moved that the Ad Hoc Greenspace Committee develop the charge and structure of the new committee. Professor Ferrell suggested that it would be better if we came up with the structure, membership and charge of the new committee. It was suggested that the chair do this. Ferrell made an amended motion to this effect, which was seconded by Chair Rigsby. The motion passed on a voice vote.

Professor Ferrell will report back to the Committee at its November meeting regarding the new committee.

Agenda Item #3: Request that the Service Learning Advisory Committee (an administrative committee of ECU) become a standing committee of the Faculty Senate

Chair Rigsby presented a request from the Service Learning Advisory Committee and the Academic Standards Committee that the Committee on Committee review the role of faculty input into the service learning component of the university curriculum. It was suggested that we might form another committee with service learning as a charge. Professor Gares made the motion that we “add a letter ‘G’ to the charge of the Academic Standards Committee to cover service learning.”
Discussion of what was meant by “service learning” followed. Professor Ferrell stated that according to the UNC Code faculty has control of curriculum matters, therefore if any course credit is given for service learning it would need to be approved by the faculty. Professor Taggart made the motion that “Service learning credit at East Carolina University be under the purview of the Academic Standards Committee.” The motion was seconded by Chair Rigsby. The motion passed on a voice vote. The chair of the Faculty Senate will notify George Bailey, chair of the Academic Standards Committee that review of “Service Learning Credit” is included scope in his committee’s charge.

Professor Ferrell adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Scott
Secretary, Committee on Committees