

Governance Council
October 1, 2021
2:30pm-3:30pm

Agenda
Called to order: 2:35pm

1. Introduction of new/returning members
 - a. Returning members: Diana Peck (A&C), Solomon Nyaanga (Business), Elizabeth Galetz (COSH), Gary Marks (Library), Johanna Prado (Professional Staff), Chester Verceglia (Adjunct-at-Large), Venkat Sharma (Admin), Fanny Lauby (HHS)
 - b. New member: Ellen Pozzi (COE)

Absent: Diana and Venkat
Joined by Wendy Christensen, SEC

2. Appointment of minute taker

October 2 meeting – Liz Galetz

3. Review standing and priority charges for AY 2021-22 - (Senate Vice-Chair)
 - a. https://studentwpunj-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/person/marksg_wpunj_edu/EZ3exEVjuRVOn_3Y4URLjWkBZzzQsnTbwgfdCd08zAw2JA?e=OqEyW9

Discussion: Reviewed charges for AY 21-22 with Wendy Christensen. Considering virtual format for forums regarding representation in Senate.

4. Access to Senate & Council documents (One Drive Access)

Discussion: GM shared OneDrive link with members.

5. Review 2020-2021 Year End Report
 - a. https://studentwpunj-my.sharepoint.com/:w:/g/person/marksg_wpunj_edu/ESKTueiqNSNGi1f9z_M8PuABZ-13BUY5JAgTxt0o3Bue1Q?e=elQnOg

Discussion: Reviewed year-end report.

6. Chair/co-chair nominations

Discussion: Nominations taken: Gary for chair (Chet, Johanna) co-chair: Liz (Fanny, Chet). All in favor.

7. New Business

Discussion: Open forums to hear feedback regarding Senate representation. Need to find a few calendar dates (2 minimum), EP suggested qualitative form as well (Qualtrics). Record the forums, have note takers, recording for GC only to review the comments/verify notes

Potential dates for Zoom forum:

- November 4 12:30p-1:45p (Liz, Gary, Fanny, Ellen, Chet, Johanna)
- November 17 3:30p-4:45p (Liz, Gary, Ellen, Solomon, Chet, Johanna)
- Qualtrics roll out date: Anticipated roll out date of November 4, keep open until November 19
 - Johanna to begin questions/formatting for Qualtrics
 - What suggestions do you have for Senate representation?
 - Is your preference XX representation...
 - What are pros/cons of XX representation?
 - What is most important to you in a Senate representative?
 - What is your expectation for your Senator and At-large representative?
 - Other comments

Tabled: Constitutional Amendments flow, need to hear back from Senate. Need info from SEC about ex-officio members

8. October meeting date

Meeting date: October 29, 2021 at 1p

9. Adjournment - 3:35p

2019-2020 Year-End Report

1. **Council:** Governance Council

2. **Academic Year:** 2019-20

3. **Council Members:** Michelle Cascardi, Lashauna Dean, Gary Marks (Co-Chair), Elizabeth Galetz (Co-Chair), Solomon Nyaanga, Diana Peck, Venkat Sharma, Johanna Prado, Chester Verceglia

4. **Council Charges and Summary of Council Activities**

Standing Charges:

1. Delineate the role of the Faculty Senate in University governance.
2. Review the various governance statements.
3. Recommend patterns of and responsibilities for self-governance by colleges, schools, institutes, divisions and faculties.
4. Review the Policy Manual periodically and suggest policies that need to be reviewed, revised and/or updated.
5. Review proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate By-Laws and Constitution. To provide guidance to the Faculty Senate in the interpretation of proposals and amendment procedures. To maintain accurate records of Faculty Senate Governing documents, including historical records outlining all amendments and alterations.

Priority Charges 2019-20

1. Propose the Senate approval procedure for non-department faculty appointments to said committees as authorized in the Faculty Handbook.
2. Communicate with various Senate Councils in the areas where conflicts were noted in the Governance Council alignment review and collaborate to propose necessary or recommended amendments or corrections.
3. Evaluate the existing Senate council's documentation and manuals. Assess the necessity of manuals or documentation for the various Senate Councils. Recommend the development of manuals or documentation where necessary and procedures for approving manuals and documents by the Senate.

2019-20 Governance Council Summary of Activities

The Governance Council made great strides this academic year in fulfilling its standing and priority charges. The council reviewed priority charge #1 by assessing the new procedures outlined in the faculty handbook. The council advised that duplicating the procedures in the Bylaws would not be necessary but suggested the process could be formalized with the

development of an Executive Committee Manual [Priority Charge #3]. [See Governance Response to Priority Charge #1](#)

The council continued to review the Senate Council Standing Charges and the Senate By-laws to ensure alignment (Priority Charge #2, Standing Charge #5). The Council began contacting identified councils and will continue to conduct outreach and collaborate to submit bylaw revisions, as necessary.

The Council assisted the Research & Scholarship Council in the development and proposal of a bylaw amendment changing the name of the council. The new Research, Scholarship, & Creative Expression Council was recognized with the adoption of the amendment on February 25, 2020. [See Bylaw Amendment](#)

The Council fulfilled Standing Charge #5 by updating the Senate Governing Documents and providing updated copies to the Senate Chair.

The Council became aware of growing concerns and interest in Senate Representation considering the University's discussion of academic reorganization. The Council began to research the impact of reorganization on the Senate and subsequently began a review of existing representative models at peer institutions. The Council was well prepared when the Senate Chair requested a review and possible short-term recommendation for the Senate to consider after academic reorganization decisions were announced. The Council submitted a short-term recommendation document to the Senate on March 18, 2020. [See Recommendation](#)

The Council is prepared to continuing research on various models of representation should the Senate submit a request to do so in the Council's Priority Charges for AY 2020-21.

Recommended Charges for The Next Academic Year: Standing Charges should remain unchanged.

Recommended Priority Charges 2020-21

1. Draft emergency and remote operational provisions for the Constitution and Bylaws.
2. Review and research various models of Faculty Senate representation.
3. Continue to communicate with various Senate Councils where conflicts were noted in the Governance Council alignment review. Collaborate with the councils to propose necessary or recommended amendments or corrections.

Standing Priority Charges for AY 2020-2021

8. GOVERNANCE

- Review and recommend models to be presented to the Senate for discussion of future structure of the Senate.

Senate Representation Review

Governance Council - 3/18/2020

Recommendations & Comments on Senate Representation in Response to Academic Reorganization

On March 10, 2020 the Faculty Senate referred concerns on the future of senate representation to the Governance Council. This referral is driven by the recently adopted Academic Reorganization.

Realizing this topic was of major concern when first mentioned in the Senate in the Fall of 2019, the Governance Council proactively began a review of the impact academic reorganization would have on the Senate body. The council wishes to work with the Senate and any interested parties to ensure the Senate embodies the *Fair and Just Representation* outlined in the Senate Constitution.

The chair of the Faculty Senate suggested members of the Senate submit questions and/or comments on matters related to academic reorganization and senate representation to the Governance Council. The Council has not received any communication from members of the Senate but we welcome questions, concerns, and suggestions as we continue our inquiry.

Please direct any such correspondence to Gary Marks marksg@wpunj.edu or Liz Galetz galetze@wpunj.edu and copy the members of the Senate Executive.

Senate Representation is established by:

Art. I Sec. A. of the Faculty Senate Constitution

One Faculty Member from each academic department (the New Jersey Plan)

I. Immediate Impact

1. The following encapsulates our review of the immediate impact of Academic Reorganization and likely results should no action be taken by the Senate at this time.

- a. Current voting membership of Senate N=45 (includes At-Large, PS, Lib, AF)
- b. After reorganization voting membership N=39 (includes At-Large, PS, Lib, AF)
- c. Impact by college

College	% of FT Faculty	Senate Rep Pre-AR (N=45)	Senate Rep Post-AR (N=39)	% Senate Rep Post-AR
COHSS	35%	11	8	21%
COB	13%	4	3	8%
COE	11%	4	3	8%
CAC	15%	3	3	8%
CSH	27%	10	9	23%

2. Based on the Constitution and the Academic Reorganization, the Elections Council would need to hold elections for the following Senate Representatives (in addition to regularly scheduled elections):
 - A. Professional Sales/Marketing & Management
 - B. Secondary & Middle School Ed/Elementary & Early Childhood Ed
 - C. Anthropology/Women's & Gender Studies/Africana-World Studies
 - D. Political Science/Geography & Urban Sciences
 - E. Languages & Cultures/Asian Studies (Program)¹
 - F. Mathematics/Physics
3. These elections would need to take place regardless of the Term of any current Senator from any department listed.
4. With no action taken by the senate the new representation would take effect immediately for the Senate term AY 2020-21.

II. Short Term Recommendation

The Governance Council *presumes* implementation of Academic Reorganization would take effect July 1st of FY 2020-21. To provide impacted departments, the Elections Council, and the Senate adequate time to properly adjust to academic reorganization the Governance Council is recommending a 1-year implementation of Academic Reorganization. To be implemented as follows:

1. The structure of Senate representation remains the same in AY 2020-21 as is currently in place.
2. Terms of impacted department representatives: There are 12 representatives impacted by reorganization. Under our recommendation only the following departments are immediately impacted due to their Terms ending in AY 2020:
 - a. Elem/Early Childhood Education
 - b. Physics
 - c. Languages & Cultures (see footnote 1)
 - d. Women's & Gender Studies
 - e. Geography & Urban Science
3. 1-year plan: To address the term issues of impacted departments we suggest the Senate implement a 1-year AY 2020-21 term for a Senate representative from each department (II.2 a-e). The remaining impacted department reps should fulfill their current 2-year terms scheduled to end in AY 2020-21.
4. Voting Threshold: To approve this 1-year implementation proposal we suggest a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate be established as the approval threshold. This threshold is suggested as it is the standard for Constitutional amendments. We do not suggest a Constitutional Amendment is necessary at this time. The recommendation is to implement a change in Senate Representation based on a change in University structure taking effect during the first Senate election cycle after reorganization is complete. A two-thirds majority reflects the importance of the issue and the acknowledgment that this is ultimately a Constitutional question. It should be understood that any long-term change to Senate Representation requires a Constitutional Amendment.

III. Rationale

1. Impacted departments should be afforded time to adopt new bylaws and engage in discussions surrounding future Senate Representation. A 1-year implementation would provide the necessary time to accomplish this.
2. The 1-year implementation would permit Senators elected to 2-year terms to complete their elected terms.
3. The 1-year implementation would place each of the impacted departments on a common election cycle.
4. The 1-year implementation permits the Senate to engage in a more in-depth discourse about Fair and Just Representation and consider any changes to the Senate Constitution in AY 20-21.
5. We feel this recommendation embodies the ideals of Fair & Just Representation as the Senate transitions.

IV. Additional Comments

1. We do not endorse or recommend any extension beyond 1-year. We believe any effort to do so would require a Constitutional Amendment.
2. A 1-year implementation does not convey any recommendation from the Governance Council for a change in the current Senate Representation structure. The Governance Council will fulfill its charge to the Senate by providing data and information to equip the voting membership with the tools to make any decisions related to Senate Representation. The Governance Council is available to provide guidance on any Constitutional questions and to aid departments in by-law revisions if desired (Standing Charge #3).
3. If the Senate wishes to charge the Governance Council with *recommending* other structures of Senate Representation, we would like the Senate to provide guiding principles to direct our inquiry. Responses and comments to the following can help forge these guiding principles.
 - a. How do Senators interpret and define “Fair and Just representation”?
 - b. Comments on the perceived size of the Senate in order to be a representative, effective, and efficient recommending body.
 - c. Comments on Diversity & Inclusion in Senate Representation.
 - d. Other thoughts, comments, questions, concerns?

Faculty Senate Governance Discussion
On-going discussion from Feb 2020

- Reorganization questions related to representation in Faculty Senate. Review Constitution and Bylaws to illicit ideas and proposals related to equitable representation.
- Constitution: “insure the fair and just representation of academic departments and personnel directly associated with academic affairs,”
- Historically the Senate has been “one department = one vote”.

Governance Council review of peer institution Faculty Governing bodies.

Institution	Governing Body Representation	Notes/Comments
Rowan University University Senate	Apportioned representation based on Full-time Faculty/PS in a specific “constituency”.	Senator per 16 Fac/PS +At-Large seats Serve 2-year terms
Montclair State University University Senate	Apportioned by college (38 voting) 26 representatives from schools/colleges: 4 (3 faculty + 1 staff) from the School of Business 4 (3 faculty + 1 staff) from the College of the Arts 4 (3 faculty + 1 staff) from the College of Science and Mathematics 5 (4 faculty + 1 staff) from the College of Education and Human Services 7 (6 faculty + 1 staff) from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences 2 (1 faculty + 1 staff) from the School of Nursing 12 representatives from 3 At-large seats: Faculty/librarians/specialists eligible 3 At-large seats: Professional staff members from the administrative units represented on campus not assigned to an academic unit (school or college). 1 Librarian 3 Specialists 1 Adjunct	2-year terms

	1 Student: One undergraduate student who shall be appointed by the Executive Board/President of the SGA.	
Ramapo College Faculty Assembly Faculty Council	Everyone is on the Assembly, the 10-member Council is representative 1-rep per college + at large +Pres&Sec not subject to 1 per college restriction	Assembly meets 4 times per year, Council meets weekly
Stockton University Faculty Assembly Faculty Senate	Faculty Senate is apportioned 1 senator per 10 faculty per school no voting adjunct	Also has Faculty Assembly inclusive of all Fac/PS
College of NJ		
NJCU	Each dept has one senator (42 total) with an alternate listed. The senator can also have dual purpose – can serve as the dept senator and also on Senate exec	Have 11 additional senators at large, 4 professional staff senators. 2-year terms for all.
WPUNJ		