

Minutes of the Governance Council
October 25, 2017, Faculty Senate Conference Room

Present: Godar, Marks, Martus, Sharma

1. Martus reviewed agenda. Discussion continued about the dissolving the Governance committee, a recommendation that Godar brought up at the last meeting. Martus will bring up this point at the Faculty Senate luncheon to see what the people from the other councils think. The members agreed that the council should continue its duties for an entire year and revisit Godar's recommendation at the end of the academic year.

2. The committee discussed the current situation with the by-laws. Marks reviewed with the committee the extensive research he had done to see what procedures were in place to change the by-laws. He explained that in the past twelve years the by-laws had been changed a total of seven times.

Marks recommended that any change to the by-laws should first go through the Governance council and noted that it was not one of the council's standing charges. He also recommended that there needed to be policy about how to amend the by-laws and that this policy when devised should be written into the by-laws.

3. The committee also revisited some language in the current by-laws and saw a few problems that need to be addressed.

4. Marks agreed to write up some language that will spell out the procedures for amending the by-laws, which will include a 30-day review period and a policy that the Governance council would be charged with reviewing the proposed amendments to the by-laws before it went to the Faculty Senate for a first reading.

5. The Faculty Senate executive board recommended that the Governance council discuss a policy change involving term limits for voting committees like UFRAC, Promotions, Sabbatical and ART. They suggested the idea of limiting the number of times an individual can successively serve on a given committee to a maximum of two years.

Marks commented that the by-laws do not address the election policy for these committees. Any information about policy regarding the elections can be found in the Elections manual. The question was asked whether or not the Election council could set the limits. Another question that came up: is the composition of the committees negotiated by the union. Martus agreed to contact the AFT president, Tardi, to ask her this question. It was agreed that we need to talk with the Elections committee about this issue of term limits.

6. Godar made the following recommendation: administrators should be evaluated either in December or January before they have to write their reports at the end of the spring semester.

Martus said he would bring this suggestion to the Faculty Senate lunch for the input by the other committees.

7) The Governance council set their next meeting for November 29 at 12:30-1:45 in the Faculty Senate conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Phoebe Jackson