

Agenda
RWU Faculty Senate
December 4, 2013
Library Seminar Room - 2:00 PM
Last Revised: December 1, 2013

1. Roll call
2. Approval of minutes of November 6, 2013
3. President Farish
4. Provost Workman
5. Report of Executive Committee
 - a. Meeting with President and Provost on November 22. (attachment)
6. Representative Reports
 - a. Senator Speakman – Advancement and Alumni Affairs committee of the Board of Trustees (attachment)
 - b. Senator Topf - Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees (attachment)
 - c. Senator Espinosa – Dean’s Council
7. Committee reports
 - a. Curriculum (Alfieri)
 - b. Faculty Development (Gentles-Peart)
 - c. Steering (Platania)

i) Motion (Platania): Adopt the proposed Faculty Senate organizational chart and corresponding changes to the constitution: (Attachment)

Within the proposed chart are the following changes:

(1) Amendment to Article III, Section 5:

The Faculty Senate shall elect annually from among its membership four officers: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Recording Secretary.

The Recording Secretary will coordinate communications for the Senate, namely: a) oversee publication and distribution of minutes and reports; b) maintain records; c) oversee the preparation and publication of the senate calendar as outlined in the constitution.

The Vice President for University Matters (UM) will act as Senate Parliamentarian and serve as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the UM standing committees. The UM standing committees include the following: University Life, Diversity, Faculty Development, and Steering.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs (AA) will serve as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the AA standing committees. The AA standing committees include the following: Admissions and Enrollment, Academic Standards and Policies, and Curriculum.

(2) Amendment to Article IV, Section 2:

Substitute *Vice President for University Matters for First Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs for Second Vice President in the following:*

In the absence of the President, the 1st Vice President shall preside over the Senate. If the 1st Vice President is unable to preside the 2nd Vice President shall preside over the Senate.

ii. Motion (Stein): Fix the number of at-large senators to three. Associated changes:

Article II Section 4. *Besides representatives elected by schools and divisions, the faculty as a whole will elect on alternate years five-three senators-at-large.*

Article III Section 3. *Each member of the faculty ~~at-large~~ shall be entitled to vote for up to five-three senators-at-large. The five-three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall serve as senators-at-large. If there is a tie vote for the final position the faculty ~~at-large~~ shall elect the final representative in a run-off election between those nominees who tied for the position.*

- d. University Life (Roberts)
- e. Diversity (Leguizamo)
- f. Admissions and Enrollment (Hollingsworth)

g. Academic Standards and Policies (Langdon)

8. Old Business

a. Second reading of constitutional changes approved in the November meeting.

(1) **Executive Committee Motion (M. Topf, J. Speakman):** Amendment to Article III, Section 5:

Delete the last sentence of the second paragraph (“The officers of the Senate shall comprise the Executive Committee”) and add a new third paragraph:

The Faculty Senate shall have an Executive Committee, comprising the four officers. The Executive Committee shall meet as required, but at least once each month from September through May, except January. In addition to such other duties as provided herein, the Executive Committee may take such actions as is necessary to be taken before a meeting of the Senate. It shall report such actions to the Senate within three workdays of such action. The Executive Committee shall not take such actions unless in its judgment the actions cannot feasibly wait until a Senate meeting.

Motion carried with 28 in favor, 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

Article III Section 5 as amended: (note inconsistency between paragraph one and three)

Section 5. The Faculty Senate shall elect annually from among its membership three (3) Officers: President, 1st Vice President and 2nd Vice President. The elections shall be conducted according to the following procedure:

The President of the Senate shall convene the newly elected senate prior to the end of April. The new senate officers will be elected by the new senate at this time. Voting shall be by written ballot with a majority vote required for election. The new officers shall take office beginning the 1st of July. If any candidate on the first ballot does not receive a majority vote, a run-off election shall be conducted between all candidates tied for first or second place. The President of the Senate may succeed himself or herself, but shall serve not more than three consecutive terms. Any current senator is eligible to be elected as President of the Senate. Elections for Vice Presidents will be conducted in the same manner.

The Faculty Senate shall have an Executive Committee, comprising the four officers. The Executive Committee shall meet as required, but at least once each month from September through May, except January. In addition to such other duties as provided herein, the Executive Committee may take such actions as is necessary to be taken before a meeting of the Senate. It shall report such actions to the Senate within three workdays of such action. The Executive Committee shall not take such actions unless in its judgment the actions cannot feasibly wait until a Senate meeting.

(2) **Motion (M. Topf, G. Graham): Executive (closed) sessions. Amendment to the last sentence of Article IV, Section 5 by adding the provision here in boldfaced italics:**

Meetings of the Faculty Senate shall be open to all members of the University community, except *(1) that at the discretion of the president, an executive session*

may be placed on the agenda at the request to the president from any senator, such sessions normally to be held at the end of a regular meeting; or (2) when a two-thirds vote of those senators in attendance calls the Senate into executive session.”

Motion carried with 28 in favor, 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

Article IV Section 5 as amended:

Section 5. The Faculty Senate shall meet monthly during the academic year. Notice of dates, times and agendas shall be determined by the President of the Senate and shall be distributed one week in advance of meetings to all Full-time Faculty, the President of the University and the Provost. Special meetings may be called by the President of the Senate or written petition signed by ten percent (10%) of the full-time faculty. Sixty percent (60%) of the senators shall constitute a quorum. No meeting can be held without a quorum. Meetings of the Faculty Senate shall be open to all members of the University community, except (1) that at the discretion of the president, an executive session may be placed on the agenda at the request to the president from any senator, such sessions normally to be held at the end of a regular meeting; or (2) when a two-thirds vote of those senators in attendance call the Senate into Executive Session.

(3) Motion (M. Topf, A. Sheldon): Increase the number of faculty per senator from seven to ten.

In Article II, Section 2, in the phrase “one senator for every seven fulltime faculty members,” replace “seven” with “ten”.

Motion carried with 17 in favor, 13 opposed and one abstention.

Article II, Section 2 as amended:

Section 2. Representation will be determined based on the number of Full-time Faculty members within a given school or division. Each school or division will be authorized one senator for every ten full-time faculty members with each school or division having a minimum of one senator.

(4) Motion (M. Topf, S. Bosco): Absences of senators from meetings. Amendment to Article IV, Section 8 that would reduce the number of absences a senator may have per year from six to three, before the seat is declared vacant. The proposed amendment also removes the provision (the whole second sentence) requiring the Senate minutes to note when a senator is absent for two consecutive meetings. The proposed new Article IV, Section 8 is as follows:

“Absences of senators shall be recorded in the minutes of the Senate. When a senator has missed three regular Senate meetings in an academic year, the office shall be declared vacant.”

Motion carried with 27 in favor, no opposition and one abstention.

Article IV Section 8 as amended

Section 8. Absences of senators shall be recorded in the minutes of the Senate. Absences of senators shall be recorded in the minutes of the Senate. When a senator has missed three regular Senate meetings in an academic year, the office shall be declared vacant.

- b. Continuing Studies Review Ad-Hoc Committee is populated but has no active charge. Does the senate wish to charge this committee, disband it, or not act at this time?

9. New Business

- a. *Motion (Stein): Charge the executive committee to follow up with the provost on the implementation of a governance structure for Interdisciplinary Programs (attachment).*
- b. *Motion (Bosco): Charge the Faculty Development Committee meet with the Human Subjects Review Board (HSRB) regarding its new requirement that all students and faculty who submit HSRB proposals take a 4-6 hour online research course before their proposals will be reviewed by the HSRB. The FDC should inform the Senate and all faculty (if appropriate) regarding this requirement and the plan for its implementation.*
- c. *Motion (Leguizamo): Charge the Diversity committee to work with the Faculty Development Committee to develop a Faculty LLC to start in Fall 2014 focused on diversity issues.*
- d. *Motion (Speakman): The Faculty Senate opposes the relocation of the School of Justice Studies to the basement of the law school, and recommends that any decisions regarding the physical relocation of academic programs be done in consultation with the Faculty Senate.*
- e. *Motion (Stein) Charge the Academic Standards and Policies committee with developing policies or recommendations for faculty conducting examinations in courses using electronic textbooks.*