

NCSU Faculty Senate – Governance Committee Year End Report 2012-2013

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The Governance Committee addresses 5 items this year:

1-Improve Faculty Senate website

Completed a study, consulted with Ellen McDaniel for proposed systems and providers, proposed plan to improve accessibility, improve information dissemination, and promote discussion among members of the faculty (details in report).

2-Change the Faculty Senate bylaws to allow the Chair to call for general faculty emergency meetings

Proposed a change to enable the Chair or Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate to call for emergency meeting (details in report).

3-Review regulations for the selection of the Administrative Board of the Graduate School to "call for college representatives elected by the faculty"

Becky Rufty indicated that some of the largest colleges in the university have both elected and appointed members.

4-Investigate the CUE composition and the regulations for selection of Course and Curriculum Committee (CCC) members

Committee met with Barbara Kirby to learn about the process, CUE has 34 members of which 17 seats are assigned to colleges. It is proposed to have the 6 non-academic seats as "non-voting members".

5-Consider practices for best representation of EPA/non-faculty individuals

Committee co-chairs met with Betsy Brown and committee developed proposal to address current areas of uncertainty (details in report).

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Report:

1- Senate website improvement (FALL 2012)

The committee discussed how to improve the Senate website and what items of importance should be included.

The committee investigated 10 websites of other institutions. After reviewing these websites it was determined that Georgia Tech, MIT, UC Santa Barbara, Duke University, and Penn State University did not provide what we were looking for. We selected 5 sites, which we deemed good to consider their framing and front page design, namely: **Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Purdue University, University of Florida, and University of California – Berkeley.**

It is of importance to have presence on the University Main Page with the most important items for our Senate website being:

- 1- A short 2 minute video introduction of the NCSU Senate and the mission.
- 2- Framing with side buttons to access information with one page without scrolling for each item.
Central frame may flash pictures of the Senate in session, committees in sessions, that also shows the Chancellor and the Provost with the Senators.
- 3- A page of the Senate achievements and approved resolutions.
- 4- Button for “submit an issue of concern” and the results go to the academic page.
- 5- Button: “Who is my Senator?”
- 6- Button: Senate Calendar and Senate next meeting agenda.
- 7- Button: “Can the Senate solve my problem?” -- This can be a BLOG.
- 8- Button: Senate Archive.

Communication with **Dr. Ellen McDaniel**, Web and Content Management Coordinator, ITECS, who suggested the following options:

1. Contacting the University Communication (<http://www.ncsu.edu/university-communications/web-communications/>) about their service;
2. Contacting Wordpress service from OIT for getting on the web quickly with little to no programming (<http://wordpress.ncsu.edu/>) via (help@ncsu.edu); or
3. Approaching the library which provides an easy-to-use environment built on Mediawiki (The software that Wikipedia uses) that can be shared by campus users, (<http://wikis.lib.ncsu.edu>)

2- Change in the Senate bylaws (FALL 2012 – SPRING 2013)

The Committee proposed changes are as follow:

Adding ARTICLE 1 Section 4 by adding “Chair of the Faculty, the Executive Committee, or” to read:

The **Chair of the Faculty, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and the Faculty Senate** have the power to call special meetings of the General Faculty.

Change “**Meetings**” in ARTICLE III as “**Meetings of the Faculty Senate**” to clearly specify the subject of the Article, which reflects to Section 3 of the Article that reads: “Special meetings may be called by the Chair of the Faculty, by the Faculty Senate’s Executive Committee, or by one-fourth of the Faculty Senate members in written petition to the Chair”

3- Regulations for the selection of the Administrative Board of the Graduate School (FALL 2012)

As indicated by Becky Rufty:

“Some of the largest colleges in the university have both elected and appointed members”, and suggested working with Dr. George Hodge, Chair of the Administrative Board of the Graduate School for any enquiry.

4- CUE composition and the regulations for the selection of the course and curriculum committees (CCC) (FALL 2012)

Barbara Kirby discussed the composition, CUE has 34 members of which 17 seats are assigned to colleges, and most members are on volunteering basis. It is proposed to have the 6 non-academic seats as “non-voting members”.

5- Senate representation for EPA/non-faculty (SPRING 2013)

The Faculty Senate was in existence prior to the creation of a Staff Senate and a group of EPA/non-faculty individuals was accordingly assigned a Faculty Senate voting assignment since no other representative advisory body was available to them. Since that time, representation in the Staff Senate has become available although the representation of EPA/non-faculty has not reflected this change.

In reviewing the current list of approximately 200 EPA/non-faculty individuals impacted, there are those who warrant continued representation in Faculty Senate by nature of their duties; the converse is also true (there are individuals currently represented in the Faculty Senate who may be better served through representation in the Staff Senate). The goal is to ensure representation in the Senate that most closely aligns with the individual’s role in the University.

The co-chairs corresponded with Barbara Carroll and met with Betsy Brown and the committee as a whole developed a proposal for action, including:

- A 1-year grace period prior to any changes regarding representation in the Faculty [or Staff] Senate
- Automatic representation in the Faculty Senate for individuals involved in teaching a minimum of 3 credit hours/year.
- Consideration of representation in the Faculty Senate on a case-by-case basis for any other individuals not meeting the automatic criteria mentioned above; petition for consideration should consist of (1) brief (1-page) description of the individual’s current

duties and responsibilities signed by the individual's Department Head or Program Director, and (2) co-signature by a faculty sponsor from among the current General Faculty (as described above)

The proposal will be moved to the fall 2013 agenda for further consideration.