

**FACULTY SENATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
FINAL REPORT for 2007-2008**

As it has been for more than three years, even after the successful adoption of the Governance Committee's recommendations regarding reconstructing the Judicial Review Board, our efforts were still weighted toward JRB issues, though we also began investigating and working toward resolutions on diversity issues and potential changes to the Faculty Senate Operating Paper.

Judicial Review Board

We are currently revisiting some of the provisions included in the reconstruction of the JRB, specifically the procedure for vetting potential JRB candidates to ensure that they are unbiased and apolitical. We are reviewing documents from other institutions, seeking models that balance faculty members' rights and the university's interest in apolitical JRB members.

Diversity Issues

The Governance Committee is investigating the ways that the university's interest in diversity is being interpreted and enacted when university committees are being comprised and staffed.

Changes to the Faculty Senate's Operating Paper

The Governance Committee is working toward three changes in the Operating Papers regarding apportionment, electronic voting, and definitions of faculty ranks.

The rounding of numbers in our current formula for apportioning seats on the Faculty Senate resulted in the loss of one Senator. To prevent a repeat of this situation, we have examined four other equations for determining apportionment for the Faculty Senate and anticipate proposing one early next year.

We are also awaiting reports on the possibility of conducting all Faculty Senate elections electronically.

We will propose changes to the language defining faculty ranks to include "senior lecturer" and "named Professor" explicitly.

Additionally, prodded again by a departmental request, we are beginning to consider the ubiquity and contents of departmental operating papers.

Respectfully,

Mark Amos
Chair, Governance Committee