

Final Report of the Faculty Governance Committee

2009-2010

Committee Members: Om Agrawal, James Garvey, Randy Hughes, Cathy Mogharreban, Gerald Spittler, *chair*, Peggy Stockdale, Brooke Thibeault

During 2009-2010 period, the Governance Committee deliberated upon three major issues:

1. Amending the Senate Operating Papers apportionment of Non-Tenure Track Senators to a number more consistent with the representation ratio enjoyed by the Tenure/Tenure Track faculty.
2. A resolution submitted to the Senate which would alter our rules of order to allow adequate time for deliberation and consultation among the constituencies on items presented for action at Senate meetings.
3. A resolution proposing a special rule for the conduct of conducting elections for Faculty Senators.

The first issue, Non-Tenure Track Representation, resulted in the addition of four more seats in the Senate for the NTT constituency. However, as the seats are filled from the constituency as a whole, rather than from specified colleges, the amendment was structured so that no more than two Senators from the same college may simultaneously serve, thereby avoiding an imbalance in representation among the academic units.

After giving the second issue due consideration, it was decided that the proposed amendment would be redundant, in that the current procedures written into the operating papers accomplished the same purpose. This Committee, therefore, forwarded a resolution to the Senate calling for the dismissal of this proposal.

Finally, the method of distributing and collecting ballots for the election of Senators was considered. The Special Order under which the previous Senatorial election had been conducted electronically had expired. After considering the outcome of that election and other matters such a security, convenience, ease of maintenance, and usability, this committee drafted and sent to the Senate a resolution establishing a special order authorizing the use of electronic methods of conducting elections. Although Blackboard was the obvious choice at this time, we felt it better to leave the precise system open to allow easy movement to a new package, should the need arise.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald R. Spittler

Chair, Governance Committee