

Final Report Governance

In the past year (2021-2022), the governance committee worked on three major tasks. The first task was discussing the appointment of a parliamentarian to the Faculty Senate. Following a robust conversation that debated the merits of such an appointment, the Governance Committee drafted a resolution proposing that the Faculty Senate employ a parliamentarian. The resolution was submitted to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and then the full Faculty Senate. Ultimately, the Senate decided to pursue selecting and appointing a parliamentarian for the adjudication of parliamentary issues. The Senate tasked the Governance Committee with writing the job advertisement. After several drafts, the Governance Committee formulated a draft that was then submitted to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and eventually to the full Senate for approval. After the advertisement was approved, a job ad, detailing the duties of the parliamentarian, was disseminated to all university faculty members on April 6th.

The second task of the Governance Committee was a presentation to the IBHE by senate members and Governance Committee co-chair Jay Needham on shared governance. The presentation took place on March 18th; it was a joint presentation by Faculty senators and SIUC administrators.

The final task of the Governance Committee arose from the Faculty Senate meeting on April 12th. Due to some ambiguity in the Faculty Senate Operating Paper over the relationship between the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the other standing committees, the Governance Committee is now considering a revision to the Operating Paper. The revision intends to clarify the ability of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to prevent the presentation of resolutions issuing from Standing Committees to the full Senate. In particular, the revision begins by addressing the following questions:

1. Should any resolution issuing from a committee be heard by the full senate?
2. Should the Governance Committee work to define further what it means to be an "agenda committee," the description of the Executive Committee in the Operating Paper?
3. Should the Executive Committee have the power to reject forwarding a resolution to the entire senate only if the committee unanimously votes not to forward?

The Governance Committee anticipates the revision of the Operating Paper extending into next year's session of the Faculty Senate.

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