COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES AND RULES
2014-2015 Meeting #3, December 9, 2014

Minutes

Members Present: Mohamad Ansari, John Bagby, Dawn Blasko, Mark Casteel, Patricia Hinchey, Pamela Hufnagel, Jonna Kulikowich, Christopher Long, Kim Steiner, James Strauss, Brenton Yarnal

Members Absent: Larry Backer, Michael Chorney, Robert Ricketts

Other: Dan Hagen

Chair Mark Casteel called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in 201 Kern Building.

The minutes of the October 21, 2014 meeting were approved unanimously. Chair Casteel commented briefly on the Officers and Chairs meeting of December 8.

Old Business

Revisions to the Constitution, Article II, Sections 3 and 5 (Membership) on Senate Agenda

Revisions to the Bylaws, Article II, Section 2 (Senate Council) and Article VII, Section 4 (Delegation of Authority) on Senate Agenda

Revisions to the Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 (Election to the Senate) Procedures for Retiree Senators on Senate Agenda

Revisions to the Senate Standing Rules, Article III, Other Functions of the Senate, on Senate Agenda  The Committee voted to modify the wording of the legislative report to be consistent with Standing Rule V. Mark Casteel will review that Standing Rule when introducing the legislation at the plenary session, to frame the rationale behind the wording of the report. An amendment to the legislation proposed by Rosemary Jolly was discussed.

Revisions to the Bylaws, Article II, Section 1 (Duties)  The revisions were approved via previous email correspondence and will be submitted to Senate Council for its January 13 meeting.

Revisions to the Standing Rules (Committee on Athletics Searches)  A revised Legislative Report drafted by Chair Casteel, based on previous discussions with Linda Caldwell and others was presented and approved for submission to Senate Council for the January 13 meeting.

New Business

Proposed ARSSA Subcommittee on Articulation Agreements  The leadership of ARSSA submitted this proposal to establish a subcommittee that would focus on those agreements, and generate data to determine over time the number of students who take part in the programs in each agreement. The committee made some revisions to the proposal and approved the formation of the subcommittee.
Law student representation beginning AY 2015 Chair Kulikowich received an inquiry from a law student, regarding student representation from each law school. The Committee confirmed both Penn State Law students and Dickinson Law students will have representation beginning 2015-2016.

Governance by resolution This topic is on the priorities form. After considerable discussion, the Committee decided to develop an informational document for those who desire to submit a resolution to the Senate, pointing out the opportunity to discuss the issue with the Senate leadership, committee leadership, etc. This approach might help avoid submission of resolutions that address local issues or those that circumvent the standing committee structure. Hinchey, Blasko, Ansari, and Yarnal will draft a document for Committee review.

Public meetings of Senate committees This topic is on the priorities form. Senate Standing Committee meetings are already public; no action was taken.

Overview of Nominations for Faculty Rights & Responsibilities, University Promotion & Tenure, Standing Joint Committee on Tenure The Committee reviewed the number of nominees needed for each committee and initiated the process of developing slates. The process should be completed at the January 13, 2015 meeting of the Committee.

2014-15 Census Jim Strauss, Elections Commission chair, reviewed the spreadsheet showing the number of faculty and Senate seat allocation for the coming year. The Committee agreed to allow 202 seats to be allocated for 2015-2016 and to re-examine the size of the Senate for subsequent years, bearing in mind the difficulty encountered when staffing standing committees for the current year.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Submitted by Dan Hagen