COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES AND RULES

Duties and Responsibilities

Duties:

1. Attend and participate in the regular meetings of Committee on Committees and Rules;
2. Review and make recommendations on the Senate’s committee structure.
3. Assist in proposing changes in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the University Faculty Senate for action by the Senate.
4. Participate in investigating the constitutionality of acts of the Senate, failures to implement Senate legislation, problems resulting from conflicting legislation, and errors in the implementation of legislation.
5. Vote as a committee member on interpretations of Senate Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules.
6. Participate in the nominations process for the extra-senatorial committees (Committee on Faculty Rights and Responsibilities, Standing Joint Committee on Tenure and University Promotion and Tenure Review Committee) and also in soliciting nominations for Division I coach search committees.
7. See below for other duties.

Eligibility: All elected faculty senators.

Term: The term is two years.

Standing Rules, Article II, Section 6(a) describes the duties of the Committee on Committees and Rules as:

The Committee on Committees and Rules shall review and make recommendations on the Senate’s committee structure. In this role, the committee shall strive to enhance diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in all its activities. It shall appoint the members of all Standing Committees. It shall be responsible for proposing changes in the Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules of the University Faculty Senate for action by the Senate. This committee shall serve as a Nominating Committee to the administrative officers of the University in the selection of University faculty to serve on University-wide committees. In addition, this committee has the investigative function in determining the constitutionality of acts of the Senate, failures to implement Senate legislation, problems resulting from conflicting legislation, and errors in the implementation of legislation. The Committee on Committees and Rules shall have the authority to interpret the Senate Constitution, Bylaws, and Standing Rules subject to review by the Senate.

It shall maintain a standing Constitution Subcommittee which shall consult with faculty governance organizations to ensure that their governance documents conform with Senate rules. These functions include review of Unit Constitutions, Bylaws, and Standing Rules. The subcommittee will consist of the
Senate Parliamentarian and at least two elected Senators appointed by the Senate Chair and will be chaired by the Senate Secretary. Final vote of approval of the unit governance documents shall be by Senate Council.

Each spring, the Committee on Committees and Rules shall select a pool of faculty members who will be available to serve as a member of all Division I Intercollegiate Head Coach athletics searches. The Committee on Committees and Rules will ask for nominations from faculty members who are currently participating in or have participated within the last four calendar years on the Senate Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics, the Athletics Integrity Council, and/or the Faculty Partners Program. The assignment of faculty members to serve on a head coach search committee will be the prerogative of the Senate Chair but under most circumstances, it is expected that the faculty member will be drawn from the pool of candidates identified each year by the Committee on Committees and Rules.

Each year the Committee on Committees and Rules shall ask returning and new senators to rank their preferences for committee assignments. The Committee on Committees and Rules will then select the senatorial members of each Standing Committee, taking into consideration the preferences of senators. Where a representative of an administrative office is to be an ex officio member of a committee, this member will be selected by the Committee on Committees and Rules in consultation with the appropriate administrative officer. Appointments to all committees should reflect the variety of disciplines, functions, and geographic locations of University units. Annually, the Committee on Committees and Rules shall elect its own Chair and Vice Chair. In consultation with the Senate Chair, the Committee shall designate the leadership of all other Standing Committees of the Senate.

While the Senate officers are the primary faculty representatives to the Big Ten Academic Alliance, the Committee on Committees and Rules shall be informed and consulted on faculty governance issues that arise in the CIC. Such items will be periodically reported to the Senate.