

Executive Committee

February 14, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Academic Affairs Conference Room, Administration Building, Macon Campus

Conference call information: (Dial-in number (605)313-5111, Access code 747485)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Dawn Fuller

Julie Lester

Kembley Lingelbach

Andre Nicholson

Stephan Steckowski

Troy Sullivan

David Vogel

Stephanie Tolliver-Epps, Senator

Steven Wallace, Senator

Rhonda Amerson, Guest

Absent

Sherie Owens (Excused)

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Dr. Vogel made a motion that the minutes from the last meeting on January 17, 2020, be approved; Ms. Fuller seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. Dr. Dubuisson made a motion that the meeting agenda be approved as amended by Dr. Trayers; Dr. Sullivan seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

Academic Affairs submitted a proposal to slightly modify the function of the committee in several places in the Bylaws as shown via red text in the following:

e. The Academic Affairs Committee shall receive, via memo from the Office of the Provost, modifications pertaining to:

- i. BOR or USG mandates, including academic policy mandates,
- ii. Institutional or program admission standards **for the coming catalog year,**
- iii. Editorial changes to a course (including subject code and course title changes), **originated at the department or program level** as long as the change does not impact the course level or student learning outcomes,

- iv. Course pre and co-requisites **originated at the department or program level**, as long as they do not extend the time to graduation or impact the core curriculum, or
- v. Other changes **originated at the department or program level and** related to academic programming but not noted in the items above.

Dr. Sullivan made a motion to accept the proposal, Dr. Dubuisson seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Next the committee discussed an anonymous complaint letter written by a student and an accompanying message from Dr. Anderson asking us to reflect on policies and practices concerning academic freedom, civility and respect in the classroom, and challenging content in classes. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting (Dr. Nicholson made the motion, Ms. Fuller seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously); at that meeting we will discuss the Chicago Statement, the Nursing Department civility policy, and the possibility of requiring training among other issues.

The IRB submitted a proposal for a course release for the Chair of the Board. The proposal as written was unclear. Dr. Dubuisson made a motion to vote on the proposal electronically after it is rewritten for more clarity, Dr. Wallace seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Wallace submitted a proposal to change the Chair of the Faculty Senate's representation status on the Senate. Dr. Dubuisson made a motion to vote on the proposal electronically after it is rewritten for more clarity, Dr. Vogel seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Dr. Trayers was asked to create policy that specifies who will serve as Chair in the event that a Chair of a committee is unable to serve in the position for some reason. Dr. Dubuisson agreed to create a proposal to be voted on electronically. Dr. Wallace made a motion to proceed, Ms. Fuller seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Next the committee adjusted the committee/board/council chart based on numbers of faculty expected for next academic year in preparation for populating those entities. The committee discussed whether Senators should be removed/added each year or only in the election years for this units; the consensus was in each year. Dr. Trayers charged the committee to find nominees for Senate and Executive Committee from their respective academic units by 2/25.

Dr. Cantwell asked the committee to review and updates the Statues. Dr. Nicholson, Dr. Wallace, and Dr. Vogel (chair) agreed to serve on a subcommittee tasked with that charge.

Dr. Wallace made a motion to adjourn at 10:30, Dr. Sullivan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

meeting. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume these duties as Chair pro tempore.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The Chair shall serve as the Presiding Officer of the Senate; shall call and prepare an agenda for all regular meetings of the Senate; and shall circulate such agendas and minutes or other relevant documents to each member of the Senate not less than five (5) business days prior to the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall assume these duties as Chair pro tempore. **The Senate Chair will only vote to break a tie unless the Chair also serves as an academic unit representative; in the latter case the Chair may participate in all votes in the Senate and will have an additional vote if there is a tie.**

Article V, §B

EXISTING LANGUAGE

At the first spring semester meeting of the Senate, the Senate will nominate and elect a Chair-Elect following the process in Article V§D,1. The Chair Elect may be:

1. Any Senator (including Senate Officers) serving in the first year of a two-year Senate term, or
2. The incumbent Chair serving in the first or second year of a two-year Senate term.

As needed, the Chair-Elect will shadow the current Chair for the remainder of the term. An early Spring Semester vote ensures that new Senators understand the role of the Senate Chair before accepting a nomination. It also provides Senators the opportunity to become acquainted with potential nominees and cast an informed vote. If the Chair-Elect must vacate the post, the Senate shall follow the guidelines put forth in Article V§C.

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1. Any Senator (including Senate Officers) serving in the first year of a two-year Senate term, or

2. The incumbent Chair serving in the first or second year of a two-year Senate term.

The Chair-Elect may be any Senator (including current officers of the Senate) who will have tenure by the start of the following fall semester.

As needed, the Chair-Elect will shadow the current Chair for the remainder of the term. An early Spring Semester vote ensures that new Senators understand the role of the Senate Chair before

accepting a nomination. It also provides Senators the opportunity to become acquainted with potential nominees and cast an informed vote. **The seat held by the Chair-Elect must be replaced by election or special election when the Chair-Elect takes office as the Chair.** If the Chair-Elect must vacate the post, the Senate shall follow the guidelines put forth in Article V§C.

Article V, §C

EXISTING LANGUAGE

The election of the Senate Chair (in the absence of a Chair-Elect, see Article V§B), the Senate Vice-Chair, the Recorder, and the Parliamentarian will occur at the end of the Spring semester, following Senate elections but prior to the installation of new Senators. Only Senators who are in Year One of a term, or have just been reelected to a subsequent term are eligible for nomination. Officers will serve one-year terms, which will commence on July 01 immediately following the spring elections and will last until June 30 of the following year.

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Appendix One

EXISTING LANGUAGE

Group A: Elections/Appointments during Even Spring Semester Years

Group B: Elections/Appointments during Odd Spring Semester Years

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Group A: Elections/Appointments during Even Spring Semester Years

Group B: Elections/Appointments during Odd Spring Semester Years

A special election may be necessary to replace the seat held by a Chair-Elect from an academic unit in an off-election year. The Chair-Elect is eligible to be their academic unit's representative.

