TSG NS 2015-10-21

6 TSG members, 13 Faculty

Question: no Chemical Safety Committee listed
- will be added back in

Question: bylaws as pertaining to the faculty meeting
- useful for the faculty to discuss some issues before they are put forward
  -- example: new hiring guidelines
  --- apart from sending an email or bringing it up in New Business no real
  venue
- clarification: can there be a venue for the faculty to meet
  wo/administration
  -- one difficulty: some administrators are faculty, which means changing
  bylaws to exclude them from an official meeting
- response: new plan is for divisions to meet regularly (without
  administrators?)

Question: what is the number of committees that have been removed
- response: we removed two

Question: why are some committees appointed v. elected?
  - Course Eval committee clarification: who is elected?
  - College Affairs committee clarification: who is elected?
  - Athletic Advisory committee clarification: who is elected?

Question: writing committee recommendation
- important that those who are elected have experience teaching approved
W courses

Question: requirement that each committee communicate w/SC
- what rises to the status of a proposal or motion?
- does transactional business arise to that level?
- example: calendar change did not arise to that level, but it seems like it
  should
- response: items that need faculty approval must be reported
- response: a faculty member on a committee could notify the SC of a topic of interest

Question: divisional chairs proposed to be elected by the entire faculty
- worrisome
-- numbers in each division are radically different
-- we are better judges of people within our division
-- smaller divisions may lose control over their own representation

Question: moving to less divisional representation on some committees
- can be good: filling positions with people of interest
- can be bad: certain voting blocks can dominate
- q: what is it about DCs that make them different
-- the DC is supposed to represent the perspective of a division
-- better for the college to have strong representatives
-- have past examples of representatives who were elected that were not representative

Question: nomination process for SC
- not automatic inclusion

Question: P&T outside member exclusion
- doesn't go far enough: should not be able to serve on department committee
- double-dipping makes you an advocate in P&T
- are you shy of an NS person to represent that person in P&T?
- it is a problem for small departments

Question: can we cut any committees?
- response: make suggestions and send them to Sandy

Question: guidelines for P&T
- a stronger exclusion rule would make it tough for small departments

Question: why continue AAC be chaired by a member of the Provost's office
- response: Provost, Sr. Associate Provost are faculty members
- other committees elect their chair
-- response: chose not to change the current practice

Question: Judiciary committees
- already discussed new Academic Dishonesty procedures
- does setting up these committees as juries move back towards a model based on the legal system?
-- does making it more judicial make us more open to lawsuits?
- response: we did not discuss that aspect (yet)
- response: problem is that most of these committees don't meet most years
- response: college counsel has not seen this as an issue

Question: participation, what are the consequences?
- likes idea that everyone will participate in college governance
- response: we trying to begin a long-term cultural change

Question: surprised to see the description of service expectations
- is there a concern about this document affecting service expectations?
- helps people understand how much work is reasonable
- we had a robust conversation about not setting faculty expectations in this document

Question: is this going to correct the bias in representation?
- there are enough seats
- real question is are there enough faculty?
- is there a bias for untenured v. tenured?
- last few elections have been a lot of untenured faculty
- response: our goal was to set up a fair system and move forward

Question: why not require people to run for committees?
- TSG was more libertarian
- like the guidelines for excusal from P&T

Question: there are certain committees that are a waste of time
- getting appointed to some committees would be a morale killer
- response: theory is they will appoint someone w/interest or expertise
Question: chair of the SC?
- chair is the Provost
- probably should say it is the Provost, clarifying language

Question: changing some committee makeups
- admissions and financial aid could benefit from divisional representation
- things have come up in that committee in the past
- response: send us a note and make the case

Comment: many things should strengthen the committee system
- like the idea of requiring the committee to get together in the spring
- clarification: when do the terms change? Is it July 1st?
- thought: probably May 1st, or some time in the spring semester.

Question: moderator in a faculty meeting, why?
- response: part of motivation was dissatisfaction w/president chairing the meeting
-- bylaws say President chairs, or VPAA in his absence
-- we felt it would be helpful to have someone facilitating the debate who understands procedure and is willing to be neutral during the discussion.
-- rather than let it be ad hoc, let it be someone with some qualification
- is the moderator appointed? Yes, for the year, like the Secretary/Parliamentarian
-- not the Par. person, because Par is supposed to sit by the side and answer questions
- Who is the chair of the meeting? The person who is formally in charge

Question: will the business come before reports?
- agenda will be set by the SC
- would be nice if agenda indicated how long parts would take
- would be nice if agenda indicated substance of reports
- new business is almost never used in a faculty meeting

Have we considered clickers for the faculty meeting?

Quorum is defined by who is at the faculty meeting.
Specific recommendations are very welcome.

Question: page 9, point 12
- SC will be elected by the faculty within 2 months of the report
- will current SC be wiped out by the election?
- response: we need to think that through, aim is a sense of uniformity

Question: elected faculty reps to the board?
- response: didn't feel there was a need to change the current status