

Faculty Senate Governance Council
Annual Report, 2014-2015

Members: Bhanu Chauhan, Bill Duffy, Phoebe Jackson (Co-chair), Elaine Lorenz (fall 2014), Katheen Malu, Loretta McLaughlin Vignier (spring 2015), Michelle Murphy, Priya Nagaraj (Co-chair), Imafidon Olaye (fall 2014), Pamela Vovchuk, He Zhang (spring 2015)

I. The following charges directed to the Governance Council by the Executive Council for the academic year, 2014-15 have been resolved.

1. Resolve two outstanding issues related to the Election Resolutions: Uncontested Elections and Changes to the Elections Calendar

For March 6, 2014 the Governance and Elections Councils approved two resolutions with track changes: one dealt with uncontested elections, the other with small changes in the elections calendar. The Executive Committee asked the Governance and Elections Councils to reconsider their resolutions regarding uncontested elections and the length of speeches. On April 11, 2014 the Governance and Elections Councils reiterated their support for their resolutions and returned them unaltered to the Executive Committee. On November 25, 2014 Jackson and Duffy proposed the amendment to the Senate By-Law and the change to the calendar. Both documents were sent back to the Governance Council for minor changes. On December 9, 2014 both the amendment and the calendar change passed.

2. Review criteria for earning Emeritus status, the process by which individuals are nominated, and the length of time that professor should be at WP to qualify for emeritus status and make recommendations.

The Governance Committee sent four documents to the Faculty Senate with regard to the issue of Emeritus status: Recommendation to the Board of Trustees: Modification of the Emerita/us Process; Draft Resolution of the Governance Council/Recommendations to the Board of Trustees/Modification of the Emerita/us Process; Governance Council Recommendations for Revision of Board of Trustees Emeritus Policy; Emeritus Status Policies/Criteria in New Jersey State Universities.

The Resolution with the attendant documents was put on the Faculty Senate agenda for April 14, 2015 and April 28, 2015. The Faculty Senate did not vote on the Resolution. It will be placed on the agenda in fall 2015.

3. Review standing charges for all councils and make recommendations for revisions (avoid redundancy).

The Governance Council contacted the Graduate Program Council and the Graduate Policy Council to see if it were necessary to continue having two graduate councils

and if perhaps, there might be a redundancy with both. The co-chairs of both councils responded to the Governance Council's query stating that there was enough work to warrant two councils as both have very different directives. The Graduate Program Council focuses on evaluating new or revised graduate programs. The Graduate Policy Council focuses on developing and/or revising university-wide policies/procedures related to graduate programs.

4. Review Strategic Plan and determine how Council can align itself and work with the implementation teams.

The Council did not take up this charge. If the Executive Committee finds this to be a continued concern, this charge can be recommended for next year.

5 Review the Policy Manual periodically and suggest policies that need to be reviewed, revised and/or updated.

The Council did not take up this charge. If the Executive Committee finds this to be a continued concern, this charge can be recommended for next year.

6. Recommend patterns of and responsibilities for self-governance by colleges, schools, institutes, divisions and faculties.

The Governance Council had two recommendations to make in the area of self-governance:

(1) To work with the Budget and Planning Council to improve communication between Administration and faculty regarding the financial health of the university. It was suggested that the College of Business could identify key areas of discussion to increase faculty involvement and investment in the budget process.

(2) To work with the Research and Scholarship Council to explore how the assignment of ART affects the budget and to explore a permanent reduction in the current teaching load.

7. Review applications for Emeritus/a Status and make recommendations to the Senate.

The Council brought resolutions to the Senate to grant Emeritus/a status to the following: Robert McCallum, James Manning, Robert Chesney, Ann Ciliberti, Daphne Joslin, and Alice Deakins. The Resolutions passed.

An application for Emerita Status for Aria Cheo has been tabled until next fall until the committee receives her official retirement date in the summer. An application for Emerita Status for Susan Laubach has been tabled until next year until the committee receives her revised curriculum vitae.

Respectfully submitted,
Phoebe Jackson, Co-chair
Priya Nagaraj, Co-chair
Governance Council
May 22, 2015