

Faculty Affairs Committee 2007-2008 Year-End Report

Members of the Committee

David Frantz (BUSE '08, ex-officio)
 Sherry Rankin (NURS '08)
 T. J. Rivard (HSS '08)
 Mort Seddighin (NSM '08, short term, on sabbatical S'08)
 Denise Bullock (HSS '09)
 Mary Fell (HSS '09)
 Laverne Nishihara (HSS '09, chair)
 Emily Winburn (LIB '09)

Meeting Dates

The Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) met on 9-11-07; 9-25-07; 10-9-07; 10-23-07; 11-13-07; 11-27-07; 12-11-07; 1-22-08; 2-12-08; 2-26-08; 3-11-08; 3-25-08.

Original Charges to the Committee

The following is a full quotation of the original charges to FAC for 2007-2008 as they appeared in Circular E05-08:

“Faculty Senate Membership Rules and Faculty Handbook

- *Amend membership rules so that emeriti are no longer members*
- *Evaluate whether membership can be changed so that faculty who are on leave (sabbatical, family, or professional) can be temporarily excluded from membership.*

Promotion and Tenure Policy

- *Clarify the role of annual reviews and student evaluations in P&T document.*
- *Consider the suggestions for P&T dossier organization and size as proposed by P&T committee.*
- *Develop ways of accounting for recurring academic overload in P&T decisions.*
- *Ensure that the expectations for the P&T dossier described in the P&T policy are in compliance with the expectations from the President's office.*
- *Consider the feasibility of different workload preferences for faculty.*
- *How could varied workload preferences be considered in P&T decisions?*

Changes to Bylaws

- *Evaluate the chair evaluation policy and propose changes as needed.*
- *Make adjustment to Faculty Senate President summer stipend so that it is linked to average faculty pay increases.*
- *Include Chair of Athletics Committee in Agenda Committee.*

Recurring Charges

Continue to monitor for accuracy any additions and deletion of faculty senate policies from the academic handbook/faculty senate website. Prepare the collection of policies for a new version of the campus handbook in August 2008.”

Additional Charges

FAC received the following additional charges and requests in the course of 2007-2008:

- The proposed conversion from divisions to schools required changes to the IUE Constitution. These changes became FAC’s primary focus in Fall 2007.
- FAC was asked to review the Faculty Support Proposal draft and the Deans’ Responsibilities document.
- FAC was asked to address the possibility of policy changes: a term limit for the Faculty Senate President, and a term limit for members of the Promotion & Tenure Committee.
- FAC was asked to discuss the possibility of developing a process and instrument for an annual review of the chancellor.

Report of the Committee’s Activities

- Following discussion, FAC decided not to recommend that the Athletics Committee chair be made a member of the Agenda Committee. Reasons included the following: the nature of the Athletics Committee was different from that of Senate standing committees, and once policies were established, the Athletics Committee would seldom be on the Senate agenda over the course of an academic year.
- Promotion & Tenure: FAC began reviewing the April 2007 recommendations of the IUE Promotion & Tenure Committee, and reviewing the April 2007 statement from the Office of the Executive Vice President about promotion and tenure. FAC had planned to propose revisions to IUE’s p & t policy. However, the statement from the Office of the Executive Vice President had the potential to affect p & t policies on all IU campuses. It was announced that the statement would be examined by University Faculty Council. Pending the outcome of this examination, FAC decided to postpone revisions to IUE’s policy.
- FAC resumed its examination of the division chair review instrument and policy. Due to the possible and then actual conversion from chairs to deans, FAC postponed any proposed revisions to the chair review instrument and policy until the responsibilities of deans were clarified and finalized.
- IUE Constitution revisions: FAC first worked on revisions to Article 2 of the IUE Constitution. These had priority due to the proposed conversion from divisions to schools. The revisions listed areas of the Faculty Senate’s legislative authority and areas of School Faculty’s legislative authority. The revisions also listed areas of faculty’s recommending and consultative authority. The Faculty Senate voted to approve these revisions during the December 4, 2007 meeting. FAC then worked on revisions to the Constitution that addressed associate faculty members (part-time, adjunct, emeriti, visiting) and faculty on leave. The revisions stated that they had all rights and privileges in Senate except for the vote, with some provisions for faculty on leave. Faculty Senate voted to approve these revisions on March 4, 2008.

- IUE Bylaws revisions: FAC worked on revisions to the description of the Faculty Senate President's summer stipend. The Senate approved these revisions on March 4, 2008. FAC then worked on other Bylaws revisions, including clarifications, revisions to committee descriptions, updates to administrative officers' titles, and revisions to processes for updating and maintaining the Academic Handbook. Faculty Senate voted to approve these revisions on May 6, 2008.
- FAC began to discuss the Faculty Support Proposal draft, which was referred to the Budgetary Affairs Committee. FAC discussed the Deans' Responsibilities draft, and offered some comments to the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs during a School meeting.
- FAC considered the idea of proposing term limits for the Senate President and members of the P & T Committee. FAC decided not to pursue these proposals due to considerations including the possibility of not having enough faculty members available and willing to serve in these positions each year, and the fact that faculty members select people for these positions through elections.
- FAC considered the idea of developing an instrument and process for an annual review of the chancellor, but decided against it due to its not being part of the charges to FAC.

Recommendation of Charges for 2008-2009

IUE Bylaws Revisions

- In consultation with administrators and faculty members, work on revisions to the chair (now dean) review process and instrument, including recent changes to the title and the responsibilities.
- Propose changing "divisions" to "schools" in the language of the Bylaws.

Promotion & Tenure Policy

- Review the recommendations of the IUE P & T Committee from Spring 2007.
- Determine which revisions to IUE's P & T policy should be proposed in light of the Office of the Executive Vice President's statement, which is being examined by UFC, and which revisions must await the outcome of UFC's examination.

Academic Ranks Policy

Develop a coherent listing of academic ranks at IUE, summarizing the credentials and responsibilities of each (currently, ranks are described in separate policies).

Recurring Charge

As necessary, work on revisions to the Academic Handbook in consultation with the Faculty Senate President and the Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Respectfully submitted by Laverne Nishihara