

This document attempts to summarize a developing consensus on the reform of the UFC based on recommendations from two documents (cited below) and related discussion at meetings of the UFC. It is intended to inform the work of a new task force which will revise the Constitution and Bylaws of the University Faculty Council in time for a vote in the fall of 2011. Some recommendations can be implemented without any revision to the Constitution and Bylaws.

1. UFC Membership

Shrink the size of the Council by at least one third, by adjusting representation from IU Bloomington, IUPUI, student, and ex-officio ranks. Each regional campus should be allotted two representatives, at minimum. Preserve proportional representation through weighted voting, if necessary.

2. UFC Agenda Committee

Authorize the Agenda Committee to act on behalf of the UFC on any matter under the UFC's authority. Define appropriate parameters for such action, including a defined quorum, voting requirements, and remonstrance procedures. Preserve proportional representation through weighted voting, if necessary.

3. Quorum & participation

Set up structures online to encourage activity and discussion between official meetings.

Develop policy and/or procedure for asynchronous online voting to ameliorate problems attaining a quorum.

4. Meetings

Plan three UFC meetings per year, with the first meeting being the annual State of the University address by the University President. Whenever possible hold meetings in person, at the Indianapolis campus.

Shorten meeting times to a maximum of two hours, preferably 2:30 to 4:30 pm, on Tuesday.

Plan meetings of the UFC Agenda Committee monthly, with the University President whenever possible. Whenever possible hold meetings in person, at the Indianapolis campus.

Discontinue the practice of holding Agenda Committee meetings immediately preceding meetings of the full Council.

Plan teleconference meetings of the Agenda Committee approximately two weeks ahead of the meetings of the full Council. Circulate the meeting agenda one week before the meeting, to encourage online discussion and give time for members to consult on their campuses.

5. Election reform

Revise the election cycle currently mandated by the Bylaws of the UFC to develop realistic election policies. Current policy is unworkable and not observed.

6. Standing committees

These recommendations do not cover the role of standing committees, an issue which has not received enough discussion to merit the proposal of a consensus view.

DOCUMENTS

Circular U5-2011

UFC Task Force Recommendations, November 30, 2010

<http://www.indiana.edu/~ufc/docs/circulars/AY11/U5-2011.pdf>

Memo, Dethloff & Dowell, Proposal for the Reform of UFC, January 28, 2011

<http://www.indiana.edu/~ufc/docs/addDocs/AY11/UFCMemo.pdf>