

## Senate Affairs Committee Year-End Report

Chair: Kevin D. Murphy, Chair

EC Liason: Ann Price, EC Liason

Committee Members: Andy Finch, Peter Martin, Pierre Massion, William Robinson, Jonathan Schildcrout.

Charges:

1. Study the Faculty Senate's traditional method for apportionment of voting Senators across colleges and make recommendations in advance of the Faculty Senate's next reapportionment in AY 2020.

The Senate Affairs Committee engaged in discussions of the apportionment system, Fall 2016-Spring 2017. In particular, we considered alternatives to the current system of establishing minimum and maximum numbers of representatives from the various colleges and schools of the University. We discussed the potential for increasing the representation of smaller units and limiting the numbers of representatives from the School of Medicine which has an extremely large faculty relative to other units. As is well known, the faculty of the School of Medicine function differently from faculty in many other units of the University, but we felt that it was important to adhere to the formerly established principle that faculty members are considered equivalent for purposes of apportionment, regardless of the nature of the teaching in which they engage.

2. Conduct a complete review of the Faculty Senate's Constitution and Rules of Order and make recommendations for amendments as deemed appropriate by the SAC.

Reviewed the Faculty Senate's Constitution and Rules of order and made a motion for revisions, January 12, 2017.

3. Appoint a representative to the CARE Committee.

Andy Finch appointed to CARE Committee.

4. The SAC will continue to maintain at least yearly communication with the University's Staff Council leadership and with the Chairs of the University's Standing Committees as referenced in the Faculty Senate's Rules of Order.

Met with members of the Chairs of the University's Standing Committees, March 22, 2017.

### ● Major Accomplishments/Outcomes:

The major accomplishments of the Senate Affairs Committee for AY 2016-17 were addressing the question of succession in the leadership of the Faculty Senate, the incorporation of DEI concerns into the Senate through the establishment of a new committee dealing specifically with

those questions, and concerns about the definition of a quorum. The results of these efforts are detailed below:

- Reviewed the Faculty Senate's Constitution and made motions for revision of the Constitution related to quorum and succession. Both motions were adopted at the Faculty Senate's January 12, 2017, meeting and were forwarded to the Spring Faculty Assembly for a vote on April 6, 2017. Both motions gained a greater than two-thirds majority vote and were thus adopted. The Faculty Senate's Constitution has been edited to reflect the new language related to quorum and succession.
- Reviewed the Faculty Senate's Rules of Order and made a motion to amend the Rules of Order to include a new Faculty Senate Committee for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the Faculty Senate's January 12, 2017, meeting. The motion was adopted and the Rules of Order have now been amended accordingly
- Reviewed the format of the Faculty Senate's Constitution and Rules of Order and presented a motion at the April 13, 2017 meeting to correct formatting issues and correctly align all references to sections with the Constitution and Rules of Order. This motion was adopted by the Faculty Senate and will now be placed before the Faculty Assembly for a vote at the Fall 2017 Faculty Assembly meeting.

- Recommendations:

It is recommended that the meeting with the University's Staff Council leadership and with the Chairs of the University's Standing Committees be held in the first semester of the academic year, in order to maximize benefit from coordination.

- Suggestions for Future Charges:

In the future, the charge to consider the system for apportionment should continue to be a central concern of the Senate Affairs Committee. In addition, the SAC should continue to maintain at least yearly communication with the University's Staff Council leadership and with the Chairs of the University's Standing Committees as referenced in the Faculty Senate's Rules of Order, and to appoint a representative to the CARE Committee.