

Appointments and Elections Committee

2014-2015 Year-End Report

Over the course of the 2014-2015 academic years, the Appointments and Elections committee (AEC) in partnership with the University Senate Office conducted two rounds of appointments and elections (Fall and Spring). In Fall 2014, the AEC made 14 appointments to 10 committees with two vacancies on two committees left unfilled. In addition, the general faculty elected 20 faculty to 12 elected positions. In Spring 2015, the AEC made 33 appointments to 19 committees with seven vacancies on six committees left unfilled.

One of the key issues that came to light this last academic year was the lack of faculty available to serve on committees. This appears to be related to the smaller number of tenure track faculty available to serve on committees across the HSU campus. As a result of this circumstance, several key committee positions were left unfilled. One such key position was the chair of the Institutional Curriculum Committee (ICC). Because no faculty member was nominated for the ICC Chair position, no one was elected to this position by the General Faculty. Moreover, because a process for filling this position in an "emergency/ interim" was not previously established, the University Senate appointed the current Chair (final term ending in Spring 2015) back to the position until the general faculty is able to vote someone into that position.

Based on coordination with the University Senate Office, it was observed that the process of determining committee positions that were vacant was cumbersome and not as organized as efficiently as possible. It is the recommendation that the AEC is coordinating with the University Senate Office work on developing a more "systematic" process for determining committee vacancies.

Also in this last academic year, the AEC worked with the Constitutions and Bylaws Committee to develop a resolution titled "Resolution to Establish Voting Procedure on the Constitution of the University Senate of HSU for Spring 2014". For this resolution the AEC worked to establish procedures for voting on amendments to the University Senate Constitution that are then approved by the Senate. With no clearly defined electorate listed in the Constitution, the AEC, in consultation with the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, addressed this in the procedure. This resolution was passed by the University Senate.

Justus Ortega

Appointments and Election Committee Chair

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 23, 2015

TO: Noah Zerbe, Chair
University Senate

FROM: Richard Bruce, Chair
Constitution and Bylaws Committee

RE: Summary Report of Academic Year's Activities per University Senate Bylaws 10.62

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee (CBC) had an intense fall semester, producing four (4) resolutions forwarded to the Senate, as well as consultation on one Appointments and Elections resolution to establish the voting procedures on amending the University Senate Constitution this spring semester (Resolution #18-14/15-AEC), all summarized below.

Resolutions Forwarded to the Senate:

1. Resolution to Update Bylaws Text (Resolution #15-14/15-CBC). This resolution was housekeeping for the Bylaws.
2. Resolution to Require Roll Call Votes in Bylaws (Resolution #16-14/15-CBC). As best practice of holding elected representatives accountable, this resolution allows for establishing procedures in the Senate's Standing Rules for holding roll call votes. The resolution also outlined when it's appropriate to hold a roll call vote in the Senate.
3. Resolution to Reduce Immediate Past Chair Duties (Resolution #19-14/15-CBC). To alleviate the potential time a past chair serves on the Senate, the term length of a past chair was established for a year to provide mentoring to new chairs. This resolution unintentionally reduces the number of faculty on the Senate.
4. Resolution to Amend the Constitution of the University Senate of HSU to Establish an Amendment Procedure (Resolution #20-14/15-CBC). The Constitution required the Appointments and Elections Committee to annually review of the amendment process, which then must be approved in the Senate prior to any proposed Constitutional amendments; this resolution codified the amendment process, following inclusive procedures used during the spring 2014 and spring 2015 amendment approval processes.

Resolution Consulted:

Resolution to Establish Voting Procedure on Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the University Senate of HSU for Spring 2015 (Resolution #18-14/15-AEC). Following last spring's procedures, this resolution established spring 2015 amendment voting guidelines. These procedures were then proposed as an amendment to the Constitution in Resolution #20-14/15-CBC.

In its 2013-2015 deliberations on separating the GF President from the University Senate Chair, the CBC has created drafts of the GF Constitution and the Senate Constitution that, after advice from Senate Executive Committee, are held for a future discussion. Tasks to be addressed in 2015-2016 include 1) reviewing who votes for which Senator positions (e.g., do 0.40 lecturers vote for faculty college representatives or do they vote only for the lecturer senator?) and 2) deliberating on adding another lecturer or another at-large senator to replace the ratio of faculty-to-non-faculty (formerly 20:11, now 20:11 or 19:11) with the loss after the first year of the past-chair faculty seat.

As chair of the Constitution & Bylaws Committee, I'd like to officially thank the committee members for their engaging discussions on power, traditions, history, logic, and visioning: Jeff Abell, Jeremy Shellhase, and Steve Tillinghast. Their attention, interest and collegiality allowed for discussions on difficult subjects this year. I believe that their careful deliberation and care in predicting future problems by our text has led to a 100% resolution approval in the Senate with minor-to-no revisions between the first and second readings.

ICC Year-End Report

In the 2014-15 Academic Year, the ICC

- Responded to over 400 Curriculum proposals
- Offered feedback to many policy proposals from the Academic Policies Committee
- Approved new Stand-alone Majors in Recreation Administration, CRGS, and International Studies.
- Approved a new BFA degree in Fine Arts.
- Approved new on-line, self-support Geospatial Certificate programs
- Approved a New Credential in School Social Work Pupil Personnel Services
- Revised the ICC Constitution for clarity and updates reflecting changes to the University and current ICC practice
- Created Guidelines for New Concentrations
- Approved two new Native American Studies Minors
- Offered Feedback to the GEAR committee

Work still in progress

- Curriculum Proposals
- Revisions to the PREP Process