GOVERNANCE COUNCIL

Minutes

September 25, 2009
(11:00-12:10pm)
Room 388 Town

Present: Max Porter, Steven Porter, Pol Herrmann, Andy Hillier Tom Loynachan, John Mayfield, Mike Owen, Ken Stalder, Arnold van der Valk, and Skip Walter.

1. Called to order by Max Porter at 11:07 AM

2. Secretary assignment (Mayfield)

3. No changes or Additions to the Agenda were made

4. Previous minutes (April 14) were approved without change

5. Skip Walter reviewed the Handbook updates made last year and agreed to check-up to see if the requested changes were make correctly. Skip is waiting for new assignments from the Governance Council.

6. Mike Owen reported that the business of Comm. Comm. is proceeding well

7. Tom Loynachan discussed the late spring and summer activities of CDDR.
   Two Faculty Handbook wording issues were raised: Section 5.2.1.2 and section 5.6.1.
   A. With regard to section 5.2.1.2, CDDR will bring suggested wording changes back to the Gov. Council.
   B. In section 5.6.1 the Council approved a wording change in line 2 from “departments in which” to “departments and programs in which.” The discussion also explored whether or not College documents must address the issue of TA review. The general consensus was that they need not address this issue.
   C. A third issue brought forward by the committee was whether or not Research Assistant review should also be covered in the Faculty Handbook. The discussion pointed out that the Graduate Handbook may already cover this and in light of the mixed responsibilities of the Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council it was
agreed that this issue, though important, could not be taken on without extensive study. Mayfield agreed to look to see what the Graduate Handbook says about RA review.

D. Arnold raised the issue of whether College documents should include the rules for a College BAC (Budget Advisory Committee) with Faculty Senate input. The ensuing discussion pointed out that the Faculty Handbook does not have an entry on this issue, but probably should. It was generally agreed that the document review process should not be held up by the need for new handbook wording.

8. Max presented the current PLAC (Policy Library Advisory Committee) summary of actions and the September 22 PLAC agenda for comment. After a brief discussion, none of the issues seemed to be of great concern the Governance Council.

9. Under old business
   A. The proposed open meetings entry in the Handbook (8.4.8) was discussed once again. After reviewing comments from Paul Tanaka, the proposed wording was changed to:
      “Although the University promotes the principle of open meanings, state law does not require that university committee meetings be open to the public, except for the Athletic Council and the Leopold Center Advisory Board.”
      This modified wording was approved by unanimous voice vote.

   B. The Potential new bylaw change for RPA (past Prez. as ex-off.) was not discussed

10. We did not get to New Business items:
    A. Termination concerns (Susan & Arnold)
    B. Definition of Faculty in NTER (Arnold)
    C. Conflict of Interest Criteria (Max and Arnold)

11. Next Meeting was agreed to be on October 16 at 11:00 AM unless Max determines that another day would be better.

12. Adjournment at 12:32 PM