University Senate Governance & Communication Committee

Report to the Senate October 6, 2014

1. The G&C Committee met on Wednesday, September 17, 2014. We presently have five subcommittees working issues.
   a. The Bylaws and Statutes Review Subcommittee (chair: Emam Hoosain, COE) has coordinated the “survey” vote on the proposed Bylaws and Statutes changes. As of early afternoon October 6th, the results (including whether or not there was a quorum vote) have not come in. They will be reported out to the Senate and the Assembly after they are briefed to the Executive Committee.
   b. The Faculty Evaluation of Administrators Subcommittee (chair: Lindsay Blake, Library) reported that the Press-Gainey results will be briefed to the Senate on October 6th.
      i. Our responsibility as a committee is not to review the results, but rather to review the questions to see which were productive and which were not. Any areas that in retrospect were not covered but that ought to have been should be reviewed as well. We will conduct those reviews after the Press-Gainey report has been delivered, with the goal of improving the instrument for its next use.
      ii. The timing of the next survey will depend on both our review of the instrument and the overall review of the Press-Gainey results. There is a requirement that such surveys be conducted at intervals of five years or less.
      iii. One committee member opined that since faculty themselves are reviews annually, so should be Department Chairs at a minimum.
   c. The Intrafaculty Communications Subcommittee (chair: Walter Moore, MCG) is tasked with working with the Provost’s Office and IT, to come up with an understandable way for faculty to send email notifications to “all” faculty; this means for both “Official” and “Unofficial” emails, and to both “Full Time Faculty” and “Part Time Faculty” (put together they would constitute “All Faculty”). We hope to be able to report progress by the November Senate meeting.
   d. The Nomination and Election Subcommittee (chaired by Mariana D’Amico, CoAH) has recommended a timeline to the Executive Committee, to solicit nominations for filling University-wide offices that will be due for a vote the end of this academic year. We are awaiting Executive Committee approval of those recommendations.
e. The Policy Review Subcommittee (chaired by Robert Scott, CoSM) was scheduled to meet with the University’s Policy Review Group in September, but the PRG meeting was cancelled at the last minute. The October PRG meeting has not yet been scheduled. As reported last meeting, there are presently two draft Policies that will require Faculty Review, with more expected this semester. The results of these reviews should be briefed to the Senate by their respective reviewing committees at the October 6th Senate meeting. Once their review results have been approved by the Senate, the drafts will be sent back to this committee and then back to the PRG.

   i. Draft “Management and Administration of Sponsored Projects” (Policy Owner is the SVP for Research): Assigned to the Faculty Development Committee

   ii. Draft “Institutional Admissions Policy” (Policy Owner is the Office of Academic Admissions): Assigned to the Student Affairs Committee, since the Bylaws task that committee with making “recommendations ... on GRU admissions requirements.” Note that there is a requirement by the BOR for review and subsequent approval by the University Senate: http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section3/policy/C337/#p3.2.4_faculty_rules_and_regulations.

2. Our next meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 24th, at 11:00am in the Mathematics Department Conference Room, Allgood Hall, Summerville campus.