8 May 2015

Jillian Dubman,
Secretary of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering
Ballou Hall


The Committee consisted of Ioannis D. Evrigenis (Chair), Yannis Ioannides, Sarah Pinto, Sarah Sobieraj, and Chris Swan. Sarah Sobieraj replaced Lenore Cowen, who was on sabbatical for the year.

The Committee met to discuss regular business (upcoming elections) on February 3, 2015. It also convened a special meeting with the Executive Committee on October 10, 2014, to discuss the reorganization of the Schools proposed by the Provost’s Office (please see below).

Following Kevin Dunn’s appointment as Vice Provost, the Committee had to hold a special election for his replacement on the Tenure & Promotion Committee. That election, which was held in early October, was won by Susan Napier. We solicited votes from 502 full-time faculty members, and received 218 for a 43.4% yield, which was lower than the yield from the previous spring (58.1%), but anticipated given that this was an off-cycle election.

Throughout the course of the academic year, the Committee had to request or appoint chairs or conveners for the Committee on Student Life, the Subcommittee on the European Center at Talloires, the Faculty Advisory Board, and the Educational Policy Committee. Moreover, we were asked to find an additional member for the Equal Educational Opportunity Committee, a representative from the Department of Mathematics to the Academic Review Board, replacements for the Work/Life Committee and the Executive Committee, and a representative from the School of Arts & Sciences to the Dental School Graduate Committee.

In August 2014, Associate Provost Dawn Terkla contacted the Chair of the Committee and requested a list of some twenty recommendations for a working group tasked with considering “issues surrounding the size of the undergraduate population and housing.” In early September, the Provost circulated a proposal for the reorganization of several key parts of ASE, with clear implications for the size of the undergraduate population and housing. Under normal circumstances, the Executive Committee is represented by one of its members on the Committee on Committees. As a representative had not been
appointed, the Committee considered it necessary to inform the Executive Committee of Associate Provost Terkla’s request. Following a series of fora, discussions, and votes by departments across ASE, the Executive Committee called for the consideration of the Provost's proposal by relevant faculty committees. The Committee convened a joint meeting with the Executive Committee, to discuss the process and the potential need for the formation of ad hoc working groups. The relevant sections of the Provost's proposal were assigned to faculty committees, which began deliberating. The Committee proposed to the Executive Committee that those issues which did not have a corresponding faculty committee be assigned to the Faculty Advisory Board, whose mandate, according to Section 2 d of the Bylaws of the Faculty of ASE is:

The board shall represent the faculty in communications with the president; provost; associate, assistant, and vice provosts; major deans, and in general whatever individual or group is appropriate, in matters concerning the administration of Arts and Sciences and Engineering. The board shall respond to requests for consultation from the president, and other administrators, and from faculty, concerning the selection and performance of individual university administrators whose duties substantially affect the faculty, its departments, programs, students, and committees. It may also initiate inquiries at its own discretion. The board shall have the authority of the faculty to solicit from faculty, administration, and others whatever information it deems appropriate for these inquiries.

As a result of this assignment, one member of the Faculty Advisory Board resigned and had to be replaced.

Also in August, David Proctor, Chair of the AS Curricula Committee, requested that an ad hoc subcommittee be formed to examine requests for approval of online courses. With the intervention of the Executive Committee, the matter was referred to the Deans of AS and E, who refined the proposal and expressed their support of it in October. In consultation with the Educational Policy Committee, the Curricula Committee also proposed that in light of the upcoming evaluation of course credits, prompted by the NEASC re-accreditation process, the faculty might consider changing the rules of both committees to require that a member of each sit on the other, ex officio.

In October 2014, Amy Schlegel, Director of Galleries and Collections, requested the formation of a new committee, “tentatively called Faculty Advisory Committee to the Galleries and Collections.” The Committee expressed the view that, given the existence of two committees already charged with relevant matters (the Gallery Advisory Board and the Gifts of Art Committee), it would make sense to consider ways of consolidating these and adding the mandate envisioned for the proposed committee to their charge, and encouraged Amy Schlegel to investigate this possibility with Dean Nancy Bauer.

In December, the Committee received requests for recommendations for a Core Facilities Committee, from Diane Souvaine and Kirby Johnson, and for a committee charged with considering the reorganization of the University’s IT services, from Dean Glaser. The Committee provided lists of names in response to both requests.

In early January, at the request of Deans Bauer and Brizuela, Ioannis Evrigenis met with Erica Colwell to discuss committee staffing challenges, especially as these might affect the proposed workload accounting system.
In February, the Committee received a request from the Executive Committee and Vice Provost Kevin Dunn for candidates for the election of two AS representatives to a new University-wide working group charged with considering faculty governance. The Committee initiated a nomination process and a special election that was won by Vida Johnson and Lynne Pepall.

In preparation for the regular annual elections, the Committee members began recruiting candidates for several positions in early February. The elections, which were held in March, were won by the following:

**Budget and Priorities Committee**  
(FULL TERM, 2015-2020)
Irene Georgakoudi, Biomedical Engineering (representing Engineering)

**Committee on Committees**  
(FULL TERM, 2015-2020)
Kathleen Camara, Child Study and Human Development

**Executive Committee**  
(ONE-YEAR TERM, 2015-2016)
Jack Ridge, Earth and Ocean Sciences
Kim Ruane, Mathematics

**Faculty Advisory Board**  
(FULL TERM, 2015-2020)
Kelly Greenhill, Political Science

**Grievance Panel**  
(FULL TERM, 2015-2018)
Soha Hassoun, Computer Science
Tama Leventhal, Child Study and Human Development
Jeff Zabel, Economics

**Grievance Panel**  
(ONE-YEAR TERM, 2015-2016)
Sara Lewis, Biology
Lisa Lowe, English
Monica Ndounou, Drama and Dance

**Tenure and Promotion Committee**  
(FULL TERM begins May 1, 2016- April 30, 2019)
Jeff Hopwood, Electrical and Computer Engineering

The yield for this election was 55.6%, which was slightly lower than that of the year before. Shortly after this election, it became apparent that one of the current members of the Tenure & Promotion Committee would have to be replaced immediately. Krzysztof Sliwa, who was the runner-up in the last regular election, agreed to join the Committee
effective May 1, 2015. Shortly before the composition of this report, it became necessary to replace a member of the Budget and Priorities Committee. The Committee is in the process of communicating with the runners up of the previous regular election.

Having circulated the annual Committee Preference Survey the Committee is about to hold its annual meeting to appoint members to committees for the upcoming year.

Even though this was an atypical year in terms of faculty governance, with many extraordinary demands, the Committee encountered considerable difficulties in recruiting candidates for elections and appointed positions. Many of these are recurring. A striking example was the difficulty in recruiting candidates from the School of Engineering for a position on the Tenure & Promotion Committee. Having contacted nearly every Professor on the list of eligible faculty, the Committee could only field a single candidate in the spring election. Both in relation to the proposed workload accounting system and in light of the faculty’s repeated requests for greater participation in University governance, the relatively low levels of participation in elections and the inability or unwillingness of many faculty members to participate in committees and other working or advisory groups pose a serious problem that the School needs to consider carefully.

The Committee would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Jillian Dubman, Secretary of the Faculty, and her assistant, Maxine Bisazza, without whom none of this work would have been possible.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Committee,

[Signature]

Ioannis D. Evrigenis, Chair