

Minutes Senate Executive Agenda Setting Meeting 4-10-08

Present: Bruce McLean (COST), Michael Reksulak (COBA), Clara Krug (CLASS), Charles Skewis (LIB), Mike Moore (COE, Librarian), Richard Flynn (CLASS, Secretary), Marc Cyr (CLASS, Chair).

Absent: Les Furr (CHHS), Jim Whitworth (CIT), Alison Scott (JPHCOPH)

Patricia Humphrey (COST senator-elect, former Senate Moderator) was present as a guest to discuss one of the items on the meeting agenda.

Krug's RFI re: roof repairs (or lack thereof) to Forest Drive building had been forwarded to VP Joe Franklin; Cyr will ask Franklin to update faculty during the meeting.

Librarian Moore noted that while most elections had been successfully completed, at least one college had somehow forgotten to run elections for University committees but would run those along with a senate run-off election. Also, CLASS is still trying to fill all its open positions and will run another supplemental election.

Cyr will put out a call for nominations for the positions of Secretary and Librarian, the elections for which will be on the agenda for the April 21 meeting. Unfortunately, Cyr's request to the Provost and President for a stipend for these senate officers has been turned down.

Cyr noted that the Provost and President had expressed concerns to him that some Senate operations are not as efficient as they could be, specifically that the SEC is at times less stringent than desirable re: vetting material that comes to the Senate, more specifically that Requests for Information are often used when a personal phone call or email could garner information in a less cumbersome way; and that committee reports (particularly when in the form of a motion) are sometimes not presented in a clear, thorough, reader/senator-friendly form. Cyr shared with the SEC a model flowchart titled "Faculty Senate Referral Process" which President Grube had given him. Several people noted they were already familiar with the chart since Cyr had introduced it the last time he was Moderator in 2003-2004; all present noted that the SEC had in fact recognized the value of the President's model, that we had adopted it and were still using it. Cyr opined, though, that perhaps some clearer directives to senators and committee chairs re: the form of reports/motions might be in order; he'll work on that.

Patricia Humphrey discussed the establishment of a University System of Georgia Faculty Council. She first attended meetings on the subject while Moderator in 2006-2007, and substituted for Cyr at the March 14, 2008, meeting at which proposals for formally constituting the body and for initial bylaws were approved. (These bylaws were distributed to the Senate prior to our March meeting, but too late for any action at that time.) The SEC decided to bring forward approval of the USGFC bylaws as an SEC motion at the April 21 meeting.

Submitted by Marc D. Cyr, SEC Chair