Article XIX: Committees

Brief Description

Article XIX describes Senate processes and policies related to Faculty Senate Committees.

Current Language

Section 1
There shall be no Standing Committees of the Senate other than the Executive Committee.

Section 2
Special Committees may be established by majority vote of the Senate.

Section 3
Special Committees shall exist for no more than one (1) year unless reaffirmed by majority vote of Senate by the first Thursday in October of each year.

Section 4
The purpose, size and membership of each Special Committee shall be determined or modified by majority vote of the Senate. Membership on Committees shall be open to all faculty as defined in Article III of this Constitution.

Non-Senate members shall have the right to vote in Committee.

Proposed Language

Section 1
There shall be no Standing Committees of the Senate other than the Executive Committee.

New Faculty Senate Committees may be established by majority vote of the Senate.

Section 2
Special Committees may be established by majority vote of the Senate. Faculty Senate Committees will continue unless disbanded by a majority vote of the Senate by the first Thursday in October of each year.

Section 3
Special Committees shall exist for no more than one (1) year unless reaffirmed by majority vote of Senate by the first Thursday in October of each year.

Section 4
The purpose, size and membership of each Special Faculty Senate Committee shall be determined or modified by majority vote of the Senate. Membership on Committees shall be open to all faculty as defined in Article III of this Constitution.

Non-Senate members shall have the right to vote in Committee.

Section 4
If a Faculty Senate Committee serves in an advisory capacity to a program, the Director(s) or Coordinator(s) of that program may serve only as an ex-officio (non-voting) member of the Committee.
Section 5
The Chair of each Special Committee shall be appointed by the Senate President subject to the approval, by majority vote, of the Senate.

Section 6
Vacancies on Special Committees shall be appointed by the Senate President subject to the approval, by majority vote, of the Senate.

Section 7
Special Committees shall be responsible only to the Senate and shall report to the Senate at least once during the academic year.

Section 5
A Faculty Senate Committee shall not perform work for which an individual or individuals receive(s) any form of compensation.

Section 6
The Chair of each Special Faculty Senate Committee shall be appointed by the Senate President subject to the approval, by majority vote, of the Senate.

Section 6
Vacancies on Special Faculty Senate Committees shall be filled by appointment by the Senate President subject to the approval, by majority vote, of the Senate.

Section 8
Special Faculty Senate Committees shall be responsible only to the Senate. The Chair of each Faculty Senate Committee and shall issue a brief written summary or copy of meeting minutes (either approved or unapproved) to the Faculty Senate President within a week of each Committee meeting held. The Chair of each Faculty Senate Committee will also issue an annual written report, as described in the Faculty Senate Best Practices Manual, to the Faculty Senate at least once during the academic year. A Chair of a Faculty Senate Committee shall make a report, in person, to the Faculty Senate if requested by either the Faculty Senate or the Faculty Senate President.
Section 9
The Chair of a Faculty Senate Committee may be replaced for failing to issue reports of Committee activities to the Faculty Senate President in a timely manner or for otherwise failing to meet the duties and/or responsibilities as Chair of the Faculty Senate Committee as described in the Senate Best Practices Manual.

RATIONALE:
The proposed changes are intended to bring policies into alignment with existing practice. Further, the changes to Sections 1 and 2 of this article cause Faculty Senate Committees to continue unless an active vote is taken to disband the committee. (Currently, Faculty Senate Committees end unless an active vote is taken by the Senate to continue the committee.) Lastly, an expectation of regular communication from Faculty Senate Committees to the Faculty Senate is codified.