

Senate Rules Committee Report

Year end Report 2005-06

After due deliberation by the Rules Committee, we are presenting a motion at this meeting proposing a change to Part VII. Organization of the Faculty of Eastern Kentucky University, section IV Organization of the Faculty-at-Large, B-1 to allow the presiding officer of the Faculty-at-Large (President of the University) to turn over Faculty-at-Large meetings to the Chair of the Senate when dealing with matters brought forth to that body by the Faculty Senate. This is being proposed to bring the Handbook in line with present practices.

We are also proposing a motion to add section F to the Senate Bylaws Part VII The Faculty Senate covering the adoption of Special Rules of Order and Standing Rules. One already exists for the Faculty-at-Large, but there is not specific mention that the Faculty Senate may also adopt Special Rules and Standing Rules.

The Rules Committee has worked hard this year to update the Faculty Handbook, Part VII Organization of the Faculty of Eastern Kentucky University. We have included all motions passed by the Faculty Senate, the Faculty-at-Large, and the Board of Regents to date. Included in your agenda items is a copy of this updated version of Part VII of the Faculty Handbook with the changes notated. This is an informational item only since all the changes have already been passed by the necessary governing bodies. We propose that the Senate Web page for "Senate Rules" should be changed so there are four links as follows:

- Senate Bylaws – This should link to the Faculty Handbook, Part VII
- Standing Rules – This link should remain as is.
- Special Rules – This link should remain as is.
- Rules of Order – This link should remain as is.

The Rules Committee, having deliberated for nearly two years and working through several proposals and countless revisions for the creation of an Academic Curriculum Committee with an Undergraduate and Graduate Council, recommends that the present Council on Academic Affairs should remain intact as it presently exists. We have consulted with the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Senate Executive Committee, the Provost, the Associate Vice President for University Programs, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Graduate Council and taken into consideration all suggestions and proposals. It is the consensus of our committee that any proposal/revision that we came up with was not as workable as what is presently in place with the Council on Academic Affairs. We furthermore suggest that changes to the Graduate Council originate with the Dean of the Graduate School and the Graduate Council and be brought forward to the Faculty Senate for approval. It is our understanding that the Dean of the Graduate School and the Graduate Council have already begun looking at their structure.

This year's Rules Committee has not had time to deal with considering alternative mechanisms, including electronic processes, by which the Faculty-at-Large can be convened to consider and/or vote on issues that concern the faculty. We have also not had the time to deal with incorporating the position of Lecturer into the Part VII of the Faculty Handbook. We strongly suggest that the Rules Committee of 2006-07 take up these issues as well as taking a new look at the Internal Procedures of the Senate to incorporate changes made since the last revision.

Respectfully submitted by the Rules Committee, 2006-07:

Keith Johnson, Chair
Melissa Dieckmann
Nancy McKenney
Jane Rainey
Margaret Yoder