

Governance Committee Meeting of August 31, 2011

MINUTES

Present: Keith Berland, Patricia Brennan, Gray Crouse, Cheryl Crowley (ex-officio, representing University Senate), Yayoi Everett, Robin Forman (ex-officio, Dean of Emory College), Harold Gouzoules, Stefan Lutz, Donna Maney, Elissa Marder, Anthony Martin, Michael Sullivan, Donald Tuten, Holly York (ex-officio, representing University Senate)

Absent: Alan Abramowitz

Also present: Joanne Brzinski, Senior Associate Dean of Emory College, Eric Weeks, past GovCom Chair and representative to the Financial Advisory Committee, Scott Stewart, Chair, Admission and Scholarships Committee.

Administrative support: Susan Lee

Incoming Chair Gray Crouse called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1) Secretary for 2011-2012. Holly York has agreed to continue taking the minutes for the GovCom meetings but will need help with the end of the meeting due to a 9:35 class. Yayoi Everett volunteered to take the minutes for the faculty meetings, with Cheryl Crowley offering to serve as backup.

2) The minutes from April 20, 2011 were approved as submitted.

3) Financial Advisory Committee and Rotation of Members. Eric Weeks reviewed the history of the Finance Committee, constituted three years ago in response to the challenges posed by the world financial crisis. While the role of the committee has evolved, its concerns continue to be the allocation of resources in a manner consistent with scholarly priorities. Since this committee has proved to be a useful advisory body for Dean Forman, it was agreed that it should continue in its functions with the selection of some new members to replace those who will be rotating off.

GovCom members expressed the desire for closer communication with the FAC. Eric Weeks, past Chair of GovCom, had previously served as the sole GovCom representative on the FAC. It was suggested that another GovCom representative be chosen in addition to the replacement members. Another suggestion was that since the only Lecture-Track representative on the FAC will be rotating off next year, it would be appropriate to identify a suitable candidate from that group.

Gray will prepare a call for nominees to be sent out to the faculty.

4) Cheryl Crowley will serve as the tenured Senate representative to GovCom.

5) Bruce Knauft sent word that he would need a **replacement to attend Senate meetings** for Fall 2011 due to a schedule conflict.

6) **Admission and Scholarships Committee.** Scott Stewart, this fall's Chair, reviewed some of the challenges faced by the committee. Unlike other units which report directly to their respective Deans, the Office of Admission reports to the Provost's Office, which has an interest in admissions data. This can cause communication difficulties with a College-based committee. Dean Brzinski recalled the April meeting of GovCom, where Darrell Stokes, then Chair of ASC, called for a change in the By-Laws whereby the committee would be either refocused or dissolved. Since there is a recognized need to improve communication between faculty and the Office of Admission, it was agreed that the committee should be retained. Committee members will begin learning more about the admission process.

As one who has worked closely with Admission for some time, Scott reiterated the importance of faculty contact in the recruitment of top students. It is hoped that working more closely with new leadership in the Office of Admission, the committee will have the opportunity to identify appropriate and effective forms of faculty participation. Stefan Lutz expressed the need for two-way communication: that faculty participation in recruitment should include communication not only between faculty and prospective student, but also between faculty and the Office of Admission. It was agreed that this faculty feedback would be appropriate in the case of students who had already been admitted; otherwise there could be additional pressure on the student to perform as in an interview.

Returning to the topic of representation on the **Financial Advisory Committee**, GovCom members selected Stefan Lutz to serve with Gray Crouse as the GovCom contingent.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Holly York, with help from Yayoi Everett