

**University of South Carolina
Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)
Annual Report 2005-2006**

During 2005-2006 academic year, the University of South Carolina Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) met seven times. The report is organized around the major issues and actions taken by the committee:

I. Review of Faculty Senate Committees

The major task of the committee for the year was the review of the Faculty Senate Committees as requested by the Provost and Chair of the Faculty Senate. The purpose of the review was of a “Sunset Review” nature. The other 50+ other Special Advisory Committees at the University upon which Faculty serve were not reviewed this year. After review of the Faculty Manual description of each committee, questions asked of current committee members were:

- i. Is the committee meeting?
- ii. Does the “charge” (purpose as listed in the faculty manual) need to be changed?
- iii. What records are kept? Has an annual report been filed over the past 5 years with the faculty senate office?
- iv. In collecting this information, discussion should take place with the chair of the committee and at least one committee member.

Results of the reviews were:

- o Committee on Academic Responsibility **OK**
- o Committee on Admissions **OK**
- o University Athletics Advisory Committee **OK**
- o Bookstore Committee **OK**
- o Committee on Curricula and Courses Committee **OK**
- o Faculty Advisory Committee **OK**
- o Faculty-Board of Trustees Liaison Committee **OK**
- o Faculty Budget Committee **Changes Reflected under Section II**
- o Faculty Grievance Committee **Changes recommended by committee were not submitted to FAC in time for action.**
- o Faculty Welfare Committee **OK**
- o Committee on Honorary Degrees **OK**
- o Committee on Instructional Development –**Review suggested that the committee charge needs to be reviewed.** A major activity for the committee in recent years has been the selection of the recipients of the Mungo Teaching Awards (which is not part of the committee’s charge). The establishment of the Center for Teaching Excellence may also affect this committee’s charge. The issue was referred to Dr. Becker to consider how to handle this recommendation.
- o Intellectual Property Committee **Changes Reflected under Section II**
- o Committee on Libraries **OK**
- o Scholastic Standards and Petitions Committee **No Report Received**
- o Senate Steering Committee--**Review suggested that the charge of the committee needs to be reworded to clarify the membership.** However, changes were not submitted by committee to FAC in time for action.

- University Committee on Tenure and Promotions **Changes Reflected under Section II**
- Tenure Review Board **OK**

II. Faculty Manual Changes Approved by the Faculty Advisory Committee, the University Faculty, and Presented to the University Board of Trustees

**A. UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON TENURE AND PROMOTIONS
Current Wording:**

This committee shall publish guidelines for departmental tenure and promotion criteria and procedures, approve departmental tenure and promotion criteria and procedures, review all tenure and promotion cases, and make tenure and promotion recommendations to the president. It shall be composed of twenty-four tenured full professors, fifteen elected by the faculty and nine appointed by the president. No more than three elected members may be from any single college or school except the College of Liberal Arts, which may have up to six elected members.

The elected members shall be nominated by a committee composed of the members of the Faculty Advisory Committee, the Faculty Welfare Committee, and the eight persons completing their terms on the Tenure and Promotions Committee. The nominating committee shall nominate a slate of ten, from which the voting members of the faculty shall elect five persons. Each voting faculty member may vote for up to five nominees. No person shall serve more than three years consecutively, and no department chair, assistant or associate dean, or dean shall be a member of the committee.

Approved Change (FAC--December 1, 2005; University Faculty--April 26, 2006)

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The elected members shall be nominated by a committee composed of the members of the Faculty ~~Advisory Committee, the Faculty Welfare~~ ***Senate Steering*** Committee, and the eight persons completing their terms on the Tenure and Promotions Committee. The nominating committee shall nominate a slate of ten, from which the voting members of the faculty shall elect five persons. Each voting faculty member may vote for up to five nominees. No person shall serve more than three years consecutively, and no department chair, assistant or associate dean, or dean shall be a member of the committee.

Rationale for First Paragraph: This change allows for the merger of the College of Arts and Sciences and appropriate representation on the UTCP Committee. Prior to the merger the College of Math and Sciences could have no more than three elected members and the College of Liberal Arts could have not more than six elected members, thus the selection of allowing the College of Arts and Sciences to have no more than nine elected members.

Rationale for Second Paragraph: This change provides for a wider input of individuals across the campus to select members for the UTCP Committee and a more efficient selection process.

B. FACULTY BUDGET COMMITTEE

Current Wording:

The committee shall consist of ten members: three elected members, the current and immediate past chairs of the Faculty Advisory Committee and the Welfare Committee, the chair of the Faculty Senate, and the past chair or the chair-elect of the Faculty Senate; the provost shall serve ex officio.

Approved Change (FAC--January 26, 2006; University Faculty--April 26, 2006)

The committee shall consist of ten members: three elected members, the current and immediate past chairs of the Faculty Advisory Committee and the Welfare Committee, the chair of the Faculty Senate, and the past chair or the chair-elect of the Faculty Senate; the provost shall serve ex officio.

This committee serves as a liaison between the University Administration and the University Faculty (through the Faculty Senate) on matters pertaining to the University budget, advocates the faculty perspective on matters of budget and budgetary policy, and provides a venue for discussing faculty questions and concerns about the University budget and budgeting process. To accomplish its purpose, the Faculty Budget Committee shall have formal representation on, and input to University budget policy. The Chair of the Faculty Budget Committee and the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall serve as voting members on the University-level budget policy committee.

Rationale: This recommendation for change came from the Committee to reflect the activities as well as the composition of the committee.

C. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Current Wording:

This committee shall consider cases involving intellectual property, including patent and copyright matters, and shall be the intellectual property advisory body within the university. In addition to the six elected faculty members, there shall be three members appointed by the president. The director of the Office of Technology Transfer, or a representative of that office, shall serve ex officio.

Approved Change (FAC--April 13, 2006 University Faculty--April 26, 2006)

This committee shall consider cases involving intellectual property, including patent and copyright matters, and shall be the intellectual property advisory body

within the university. In addition to the six elected faculty members, there shall be three members appointed by the president. The director of the ~~Office of Technology Transfer~~ **Intellectual Property Office**, or a representative of that office, shall serve ex officio.

Rationale: Name of Office of Technology Transfer has changed to Intellectual Property Office.

III. Provided forum for discussion and input on the following issues for the Provost (Dr. Mark Becker)

- Recommendation to President for the appointment of a University Ombudsman
- Provost position on faculty service.
- Posting of information for students on the results of student faculty evaluations.
- Faculty consideration of the price of textbooks when placing orders.
- Posting of brief standardized course syllabi for students review prior to start of each semester
- Sharing with the provost the committee's assessment of faculty issues, concerns, and ideas, specifically related to T&P, recruitment and retention of faculty, intellectual property, and the faculty excellence initiative.
- Impact of the USC administration's policy to increase enrollment on the quality of undergraduate education, and specifically the USC Honor's College.

IV. Recommendation of Changes in Student Academic Regulations related to Student GPA for "graduation with honors."

- The committee recommended the change in the GPA requirement for graduation *Summa Cum Laude* from 4.00 to 3.95. The committee also amended the current regulation such that the requirement for *Magna Cum Laude* would be a cumulative GPA of 3.750-3.949.
- This change was presented to the Faculty Senate and approved by them.

V. Discussion of Student Members on Faculty Committees

- Need for this discussion arose from special request from Bill Bearden, Chair of UAAC (University Athletic Advisory Committee)
- Dr. Pruitt contacted and provided background information
- No action taken this year

VI. Committee for 2006-2007 Academic Year

- New members will be Camellia Knapp, Geological Science and Mathieu Delfem, Sociology.
- Laura Woliver and Judith Alexander will rotate off the committee.
- Andrew Gowan agreed to serve as the Chair of the Committee for 2006-2007.

Submitted by Judith Alexander, Chair of FAC, 2005-2006

FAC Members, 2005-2006:

Judith Alexander, Nursing

Michael Dickson, Pharmacy

Andrew Gowan, Music
Constance Schulz, History
Laura Woliver, Political Science and Women's Studies
Stacy Wood , Business
Provost Marc Becker, ex-officio
Eugene Reeder, Chair of faculty Senate, ex-officio