**Rules Committee Report for Faculty Senate Meeting**

**September 27, 2012**

The Rules Committee members (Lisa Bloom, Shawn Collins, Erin McNelis, Stephen Miller, Cheryl Waters-Tormey) met on Tuesday, September 18 and discussed items on our agenda for the year thus far:

1. Rules Committee work from last year that was delayed because of the lateness in the year:
   1. Changing the Chair and Vice Chair positions to be Chair and Chair-Elect positions so a succession model is in place; Cheryl Waters-Tormey is documenting what other universities in the UNC system and similar to WCU do; the majority appear to have a chair/chair-elect system in place. This resolution should be coming to Faculty Senate for their first reading at the Wednesday, October 31 meeting.
   2. Changing the eligibility requirements for the Chair, Vice Chair (Chair-Elect), and Secretary of the Faculty leadership positions to include at least 3 years of service as a full-time faculty member at WCU. This resolution should also be coming to Faculty Senate for their first reading at the Wednesday, October 31 meeting.
   3. Adjusting the dates for Faculty Senator elections from “no later than February 15 of the year prior to their service” to a more reasonable deadline in early April. This resolution should also be coming to Faculty Senate for their first reading at the Wednesday, October 31 meeting.
   4. Adding the Athletics Committee to the Constitution of the General Faculty as it has one member that is to be elected by the General Faculty each year (thus, organized by CONEC) as well as one member appointed by the Faculty Senate each year. This resolution will probably come to Faculty Senate in the Wednesday, November 28 meeting, in order to add other university-level committees that could involve General Faculty elections (such as the Liberal Studies and University Curriculum Committees; see below)
   5. Eliminating the Post Tenure Review Appeals Committee and delegating those responsibilities to the Faculty Grievance Committee, in accordance with the UNC Code. This is on hold until the Rules Committee, with the CRC and Legal Counsel, clarify and streamline membership and processes for the Faculty Grievance Committee.
   6. Eliminating the elected Mediator positions associated with the Faculty Grievance Committee, based upon the recommendation from members of the Campus Mediation program, and investigating other mediation options (such as mediators from Smoky Mountain Mediation or other UNC campuses). This too is on hold until the Rules Committee, with the CRC and Legal Counsel clarifies and streamline processes associated with the Faculty Grievance Committee.
   7. Look into having a member of the Registrar’s Advisory Council appointed by the Academic Policy and Review Council.
2. New issues since Spring 2012:
   1. Clarifying the ambiguity in the Constitution of the General Faculty regarding the election of college representatives to the Liberal Studies and University Curriculum Committees.
   2. Develop and include a mechanism for removing members of university committees who are not fulfilling their committee duties that includes safeguards to avoid unwarranted removals.
   3. Develop a comment on best practices involving email meetings and voting by email for university committees (as this is not specifically addressed in Roberts Rules of Order and our faculty are spread further apart with the Millennial Campus and Biltmore Plaza site).
   4. Determine how and where to best fit the University Budget Advisory Committee into the Faculty Handbook.
   5. Look into a procedure for the creation of a new committee if it requires faculty involvement.