

MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE COUNCIL
October 1, 2008

Present: Duffy, Perez, Potacco, Rosar, Tirado, Yildiz

Absent: Martin, Peck

The Governance Council achieved a quorum and the first order of business was to elect a Chair for the 2008-2009 academic year. Duffy nominated Potacco, who was elected unanimously.

Potacco briefly reviewed the standing and additional charges for this year's Governance Council. Some things (e.g., reviewing the Senate's basic documents) have been done recently enough that they need not concern this year's Council. Emeritus/a nominations will be discussed upon receipt from the departments.

Research and Scholarship Day: Potacco will check with the Chair of the Research Council to see whether they have a resolution for Governance to shape into a By-Laws amendment.

Graduate/Undergraduate Council By-Laws inconsistencies: Potacco will review the work done in previous years to correct the minor differences between the wordings of these two councils' descriptions.

Elections Council – voting procedures: Potacco and Duffy believe that this issue was resolved by last year's Governance Council. Duffy will ask Godar and Finnegan for further details.

The Governance Council then discussed other possible topics for Council action this year.

Regarding the issue of the Academic Plan, the Council proposed a resolution regarding the next Academic Plan.

The recurring question of faculty representation on the Board of Trustees arose again. After discussion, the Council charged Yildiz with investigating the situation at our sister institutions (i.e., the state colleges). Yildiz will report at a future Governance Council meeting.

An issue that vexes many faculty members is the matter of being employed on an ongoing basis, but getting paid on a ten month basis. While the Council is aware that this may well be viewed as a terms and conditions issue – and, hence, a Union matter – some members believe that changing this procedure is merely an administrative matter that could easily be effected by the Administration upon the advice of the Senate. In any case, the members felt it would be useful for the Senate to highlight this point and direct the Administration and the Union to address it. A resolution was drafted.

The status of the Governance Council's proposed resolution of last year regarding the establishment of a Technology Council in the regular Senate council structure was discussed. The Governance Council concluded that the previous proposal should be revisited and recast. The group is convinced that any such council must focus on IT, IS and not just IRT concerns. Duffy will speak with Senate Chair Godar to seek advice as to possible next steps.

The overarching problem of faculty and administrators working with inadequate and incomplete data was raised, which led to a broader discussion of the question of how we use information on campus.

The next meeting of the Governance Council was set for Wednesday, October 29th, at 11AM in the Paterson Room in the Library.

The Council members were urged to read and comment upon the three DRAFT resolutions.

Minutes recorded by Duffy