

MINUTES OF RULES COMMITTEE MEETING FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014

Present: Marilyn Billings, Richard Bogartz, Steven Brewer, Nancy Cohen, Ernest May, MJ Peterson, Ralph Whitehead

Guests for first portion of meeting: Edward Stanek (Public Health), Daniel Gerber (Public Health), Gloria DiFulvio (Public Health), Bryan Harvey (Provost's Office) Patrick Kelly (Chair of the Academic Matters Council's Program Subcommittee)

The Rules Committee invited the colleagues in Public Health to explain how the proposed undergraduate program in Public Health would be structured since it is designed to be a common program even after the existing Department of Public Health splits into three departments, if its current proposal is approved. Once the split occurs, the undergraduate program would be outside any of the departmental structures. The Public Health colleagues described how the program would be run. All participants agreed that the undergraduate program needs to be properly institutionalized, and discussed ways this might occur. Drawing on experience in other parts of campus, it was suggested that a memorandum of understanding among the departments and the Dean of the School of Public Health and Health Sciences would be the best way to institutionalize the program. These discussions will now continue within Public Health where a memorandum of understanding will be developed. [The guests left the meeting at this point.]

The Committee then turned its attention to formulating motions to be adopted by the Senate when it receives the reports coming from the JTFRA and the JTFSO. It was agreed that the motions would receive the reports, thank the Task Forces, and endorse their key recommendations. Discussion focused on the terms of the endorsements, which could not be perfected yet because neither Task Force has issued the final version of its report.

Members agreed that the Faculty Senate must remain well informed of both the budget model testing process emanating from JTFRA and ongoing efforts, particularly the unit-planning processes forming Phase III of JTFSO activity. They also agreed that when either Task Force believes it needs Faculty Senate endorsement of a particular action, it should make an additional proposal to that effect.

The Committee also discussed a point of widespread and vocal faculty concern, the fact the proposed resource allocation model stops at the level of schools headed by deans; therefore saying nothing about the place of departments in the planning process or the relation between deans and department heads/chairs. Members noted that many faculty fear this will disempower departments. The Committee discussed various ways of assuring departmental participation in the budgeting process. The idea of creating a Budget Council within each College to work with the dean inspired great interest.

Submitted by Ralph Whitehead