

Personnel and Elections Committee Report, 2016-2017

Recruitment and Ballots

The Personnel and Elections Committee (P&E) continued its efforts to generate greater faculty interest in serving on university and senate committees and to streamline the process for gathering faculty interest and preparing ballots. The P&E Committee met on December 8th to discuss strategies for enhancing faculty recruitment and improving our process of disseminating information and making ballot selections. The committee agreed to redraft our recruitment email and to examine other avenues of communicating with faculty to get the word out about committee service. The committee agreed to contact colleagues, fellow senators, and leadership of various colleges and departments to encourage faculty members to get involved in committee service. We also spoke to chairs and deans at the Council of Academic Deans on January 19th and included an article in @theU encouraging faculty to participate in committee service. With some input from the committee, the annual faculty interest survey was completely revamped by Maddy Orritt to incorporate information about each committee with vacancies and the ability to tailor vacancies to specific faculty members based on their college affiliation and type of appointment.

The committee met for its annual “marathon meeting” on April 14 to review the survey results and compile ballots for senate voting and administrative appointment. The committee successfully filled most of the available committee openings, with active involvement from committee members to generate additional names where necessary.

The committee owes the greatest gratitude to Maddy Orritt who was essential in helping us with our outreach efforts and in completely redesigning and implementing the new faculty interest survey as well as our marathon meeting chart and resulting ballots.

In addition to the core function of recruiting and preparing ballots, the P&E Committee also addressed the following issues:

Review and approval of roster for Credits and Admissions Committee

Due to some administrative errors, the P&E Committee was asked to review Credits and Admissions Committee, in an effort to restart the committee and fill any vacancies. The committee reviewed the current roster and voted on the retention of the committee members. We also reviewed the vacancies and placed new members based on their interest in serving and prior service experience.

Review and Proposal for formation of Course Material Services Team

As the work of the Campus Store Advisory Committee has changed over time, the P&E Committee was asked to review its status and recommend whether it remained a viable committee or should be replaced by the ad hoc Course Materials Advisory Committee. In consultation with members of both committees, P&E determined that the best course

of action would be to dissolve the existing Campus Store Advisory Committee and formalize the ad hoc Course Materials Advisory Committee. The ad hoc committee was renamed the Course Materials Advisory Team and the proposal was presented to and passed by the Academic Senate.

Proposal to suspend filling vacancies for Senate Advisory Committee on Budget and Planning, Senate Advisory Committee on Salaries and Benefits, Senate Advisory Committee on Library Policy.

It was brought to the attention of the P&E Committee that the Senate Advisory Committee on Budget and Planning, the Senate Advisory Committee on Library Policy, and the Senate Advisory Committee on Salaries and Benefits had entered a period of inactivity as the nature of the work done by these committees had evolved over time and, in some instances, been taken up by other committees and entities.

The P&E Committee proposed that the upcoming vacancies on those committees not be filled at the end of this academic year (2017), so that the P&E Committee next year, in collaboration with ex officio committee members (i.e. related administrators, etc.), will be able to evaluate the activities of the committees and determine whether they might be consolidated, reduced, or eliminated.