

Bylaws and Procedures Committee

Minutes from the meeting held on December 7, 2022 over Zoom

Present: Nick Bircher (Medicine) [Chair], Cecelia Yates (Nursing) [Co-chair], Ben Bratman (Law) [Secretary], Sheila Alexander (Nursing), Steve Belle (Public Health), Chris Bonneau (Political Science) [Senate Past President], Candice Damiani (Biology), Ryan Dunmire (liaison, Univ Counsel), Amy Flick (English), Leonie Finke (student-SGB), Gosia Fort (MLIS), Tom Hitter (liaison, Policy Development & Management), Robin Kear (Library System) [Senate President], Pratik Khare (student-GPSG), Moriah Kirdy (English), EJ Milarski-Veenis (Education) [Staff Council], Chantele Mitchell Miland (UPPDA), Lori Molinaro (Senate Office), Ruth Mostern (History), Paula Sherwood (Nursing), Marty Levine (guest-University Times)

The meeting was called to order and a quorum ascertained at 11:00 am.

Minutes: A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the October 29, 2021 committee meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

Election of officers: Nick clarified that he had only contacted incumbent officers and asked if they wished to continue, and each responded affirmatively. Cecelia moved to defer election of officers to the next meeting, and Paula seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. In the interim, any committee member interested in running for an officer position or in nominating another committee member for an officer position should email their nomination to Nick Bircher and Lori Molinaro.

Old business:

Anti-Racism Action Plan

Discussion deferred until after New Business below

New Business

A. Discussion of Proposed Schedule

In advance of meeting, committee members received a proposed schedule of meeting dates and times for 2023 (11:00 am Jan 4, Feb 1, Mar 1, Apr 5, May 3, and undetermined for June). The schedule included proposed topics for business at each of the scheduled meetings. As implications of unionization was not listed as a topic until the April 2023 meeting, Ben inquired if that subject was more foundational for moving forward and should be discussed at an earlier meeting. In response, Nick, Robin, Chris, and others explained that we are unlikely to know any effects on Senate bylaws or procedures until the administration and union reach a collective bargaining agreement, and negotiations are ongoing at this time. They also expressed that the bylaws are unlikely to be affected. Rather, they said, what will be most affected are policies and the process for establishing policies.

Paula moved to cancel the January meeting and shift the listed January topic and each succeeding meeting topic back by one month. Sheila seconded. The meeting schedule, as revised by the motion, was unanimously approved. After informal discussion, Lori Molinaro scheduled an additional meeting for May 31, 2023.

The resulting approved schedule with tentative featured business is as follows, with all meetings at 11:00 AM—

- Feb 1: Proposed Bylaws amendment regarding part-time faculty
- Mar 1: Review of Mission Statement, Bylaws, and Senate Administrative Handbook
- Apr 5: Proposed Bylaws amendment regarding constituency committees
- May 3: Implications of unionization on Bylaws and Procedures
- May 31: To be determined

B. Committee Input on New Business

Nick discussed the pending anti racism action plan, explaining it to new committee members and refreshing memories of incumbent members.

Multiple committee members expressed a desire to consult outside groups with expertise on issues related to structural racism. Some identified the University's office of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion as a potential resource. There was also discussion regarding metrics of diversity, including the nuances and challenges involved in identifying protected groups beyond those defined in, for example, the decennial census. Both Cecelia and Chantele said that they would provide the committee members with links to examples of anti-racism training videos/materials.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 pm

Next meeting: Wed, Feb 1, 2023, 11:00 am

Submitted by Ben Bratman, Secretary