



Rules, Practices and Policies Committee (RPP)

Minutes of Meeting: 12/19/25

Circulated: 1/7/26

Approved: 1/12/26

Present: Jonathan Brennan (Chair), Mitchel Sollenberger, James Gulvas, Lynette Hoelter, Audrey Bennett, Neil Marsh, Nick Montgomery, Howard Bromberg, Ken Alfano, Sun-Yung Bak, Heather O'Malley (SACUA)

Absent: David Potter

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe, Luke McCarthy

12:01pm-12:05pm: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes, Announcements

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the November RPP meeting were reviewed and approved.

12:05pm-12:31pm: Recommendations regarding faculty disputes

Summary: The Chair of the committee provided a summary of the recommendations that were discussed at the November meeting. He reads through the list of recommendations and asks the committee members to provide their input.

A member asks what triggers the formal dispute resolution process in this context. They suggest that it may be necessary to specifically indicate this.

The scope of this dispute resolution process is limited to the domain of the Faculty Senate. A member describes the process by which disputes have been resolved in the past. There is a need to formalize such a process. This process can then be conveyed to the members of faculty governance. A member suggests considering whether staff of the FSO should be able to bring complaints through this process.

A member asks what authority this body would have, and what consequences they could enforce. Removal from SACUA and Senate Assembly committees is well within their purview. Removal from the Senate Assembly is not clear, as this would be overriding unit level elections. This is determined to not be a point that needs to be clarified at this meeting and can be considered at a future meeting.

A member suggests utilizing the existing SPGs to construct a code of conduct. Discussion ensues on this topic. A member discusses an example of a dispute that took place on a committee in recent years. The member suggests that the SPGs provide a good framework, but do not provide the tools to deal with situations such as the example provided.

Further alterations are made to the recommendations. The Chair asks if any on the committee objects to the recommendations being approved as they are currently written. This is approved by unanimous consent.



Recommendations:

1. We recommend that the RPP draft a Code of Conduct, this be considered for approval by the Senate Assembly, and be distributed to all members of the Senate Assembly committees
2. Potential violations of the Code of Conduct should be submitted to the Faculty Senate Office by any member of the Senate Assembly, Faculty Senate committee members, and/or Faculty Senate officers.
3. A designated faculty senate committee will (a) be responsible for fact finding and (b) recommend consequences. The results of this process will be shared with SACUA and members of any affected committees.
4. RPP should carry out the responsibilities in (3)
5. Where conflict has arisen on the designated committee (e.g. RPP), then SACUA may deliberate and make decisions on the matter

Action: Discussion; Motion passed for recommendations

12:31pm-1:00pm: Recommendations recording the SACUA nominating committee

Summary: Chair Brennan provides a recap of the discussion had regarding the SACUA nominating committee at the last meeting. It is noted that this committee will be constituted again shortly, so it is timely to consider it again.

The committee discusses how many candidates should be considered sufficient for each SACUA election. There are times, particularly with vacancy elections, where there may be only one open seat.

Voting methods are discussed. The committee determines that ranked choice voting is appropriate in some form. It is important that the voting method be easily understandable by the voting population.

Further alterations are made to the recommendations. The Chair asks if any on the committee objects to the recommendations being approved as they are currently written. This is approved by unanimous consent.

Recommendations:

1. We recommend that the SACUA nominating committee be dissolved
2. Proportional ranked choice voting (single transferable vote) can be adopted by the Senate Assembly to elect SACUA members.
3. In cases where there are few SACUA nominees, for example such that there is just one nominee for an open seat, Senate Assembly members can be tasked with nominating candidates.

Action: Discussion; Motion passed for recommendations

1:00pm: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,



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