

Rules, Practices and Policies Committee (RPP) Minutes for 4/29/26 Meeting

Meeting information:

Circulated: 9/1/26

Approved: 9/15/26

Members present: Sun-Yung Bak, James Gulvas, Howard Bromberg, Jonathan Brennan (Chair), Ken Alfano, Neil Marsh, Nick Montgomery, Mitchel Sollenberger, Lynette Hoelter,

Members absent: Audrey Bennett, David Potter

Faculty Senate Office staff present: Meaghan Blanchard, Lucas McCarthy

Minutes:

3:02: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes, Announcements

The agenda was approved.

3:05: Proposal Concerning Bylaws Chapter IV, section 06

Summary: The committee discusses the recommendations they've developed regarding Bylaws Chapter IV, section 06. This change was proposed to codify the expectation that administrators have a responsibility to provide faculty governance committees with information as part of their advisory role.

The committee votes to change as follows:

Currently: "The assembly shall establish standing committees to advise and consult with the vice presidents of the university on matters within the areas of their respective responsibilities"

Proposed: "The assembly shall establish standing committees to advise, consult, and receive information from the vice presidents of the university on matters within the areas of their respective responsibilities."

The motion passes with unanimous consent.

Action: Motion to recommend the committee's proposed changes to Bylaws Chapter IV, section 06.

3:12: Proposal Concerning the role of the Faculty Senate in Academic Policies.

Summary: The committee discusses the following recommendation:

Concerning the role of the faculty senate in academic policies: The committee recommends that the Faculty Senate adopt principles that bear on academic matters



that are shared across University units, such as annual reviews. Drafting such principles may be a future charge for RPP. The committee further recommends that the Faculty Senate constitute committees ensuring transparency, equity, and fairness regarding the matters subject to these guidelines.

The committee votes to share the recommendation with SACUA.

The motion passes.

In favor: 8

Opposed: 1

Abstention: 0

Action: Vote to whether we make the recommendation as formulated in bullet 2 to SACUA 8 yes, 1 abstention

3:33: Proposal Concerning Bylaws Chapter IV, Section 01

Summary: The committee discusses recommending the following changes to Bylaws Chapter IV, Section 01:

Current: “insofar as actions by the several faculties affect University policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate.”

Proposed: “insofar as actions by the several faculties affect University policy as a whole, or schools and colleges other than the one in which they originate, they shall be brought before the University Senate which holds jurisdiction over such matters.” (Sec. 4.01)

The committee discusses a number of concerns with this recommendation including ambiguity in certain policies, the unclear purview of the Faculty Senate vs. unions in these cases, and potential issues with centralizing power.

The committee votes to share this recommendation with SACUA.

The motion does not pass.

In favor: 4

Opposed: 4

Abstentions: 1

3:49: Recommendation Concerning Faculty Senate committees beyond senior/VP offices:

Summary: The committee discusses developing language that would potentially codify that unit-level academic committees (e.g. promotion and tenure committees, curriculum committees, etc) must include at least one elected representative from faculty government.



The committee discusses potential issues of technical implementation, capacity and scope.
The committee agrees to discuss this recommendation next year.

Action: Discussion

3:58: Final Report

Summary: The committee agrees to give feedback on the final committee report draft.

Action: Discussion

4:00: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Meaghan Blanchard
Operations Lead
Faculty Senate Office