

COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION, AND ELECTIONS

Annual Report 2011-12

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections (CRJE) met five times in 2011-12. This report summarizes the Committee's work during the year.

Advice and Interpretation of Legislation:

SCR 9.1.8 – Grades, Evaluations, and Transmission of Records

CRJE reviewed an inquiry from the Committee on Educational Policy (CEP) regarding Santa Cruz Regulation (SCR) 9.1.8 which sought clarity on whether “W's” are, or are not, governed by this regulation. CRJE's opinion was that the implications of SCR 9.1.8 on W grades is ambiguous in the current version of the manual due to the fact that this regulation was written before W grades became a grading option. Given that, CRJE does read the current wording to treat W's like a dropped course, that is to say, they may be repeated multiple times.

CRJE suggested that this ambiguity merits expeditious correction by CEP and further suggested a possible legislative remedy.

SR 900 – Scholarship Regulations

In response to an inquiry from CEP, CRJE reported several opinions on the effect of UC-wide regulation SR 900 on UCSC disqualification policy:

- UCSC's regulation 9.1.8 is not in itself in conflict with SR900 because it does not directly address disqualification or probation (and even to the extent that SCR9.1.8 bears upon disqualification or probation, it is itself a divisional regulation, which is the appropriate venue for such requirements to be put forth) If, however, a department were to adopt a disqualification policy using SCR 9.1.8 as a method of implementation, the department would run the risk of conflicting with SR 900 unless the policy is implemented via a Divisional regulation.
- With regard to 'how late is too late' (for disqualification from a major not to constitute disqualification from the university), this detailed question appears to be a matter for CEP's rather than CRJE's expertise, as well as one in which there will be no completely clear-cut answer. The key issue is the extent to which there is a discrepancy between SR 900's standard and that imposed by the major. UCRJ has indicated that such discrepancies should be minimized, not eliminated; the latter is probably impossible in practice, as it is always possible that any obstacle to a student obtaining a degree can, in some cases, effectively lead to disqualification.

Committee on Committees Elections:

CRJE reviewed the COC nomination petitions which were submitted by the February 3, 2012 deadline. As the number of nominees matched the number of vacancies, CRJE certified for the division the appointment of the nominees before February 13, 2012, which would have been the date of ballot distribution were an election required.

Santa Cruz Division Manual Updates:

After review of a request for a Cowell College bylaw change (Chapter 4.1 Election of Fellows) CRJE sought to clarify the procedure for election of Senate Fellows. SCB 12.1 and 13.4.1 state that only members of the Academic Senate may vote when meeting as a Committee of the Academic Senate, as formed in accordance with SCB 12.2 and SCB 13.1. Because the Senate Faculty in the college can act as a Committee of the Academic Senate, the election of the membership of that Committee is a Senate function and only Senators should be part of that process, consistent with SCB 12.2. CRJE suggested a change to Cowell's bylaws that would ensure that only Senators vote on the membership of the College Senate Faculty.

CRJE additionally plans to propose that similar conforming changes are made to the other College Bylaws in 2012-13.

Respectfully Submitted,
COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION, AND ELECTIONS
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