

COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION, AND ELECTIONS
2014-15 Annual Report

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections (CRJE) met three times 2014-15, once in fall 2014, and twice in spring quarter 2015. The committee responded to several requests for interpretation of several policies, including Senate Bylaw (SB) 55 – Departmental Voting Rights, and Santa Cruz Senate Manual Part II, Section III, Chapter 10 – Requirements for the B.A. and B.S. Degrees, and was asked for advice on several proposed legislation changes including proposed revisions to Santa Cruz Bylaw (SCB) 13 – Graduate Council Charge, and SCB 14 – Senate Executive Committee Charge. This report summarizes the Committee’s work during the year.

Advice and Interpretation of Legislation:

Department Interpretation of Bylaw 55 in Terms of Attendance to Departmental Personnel Review Discussions

CRJE was contacted several times during the 2014-15 academic year seeking interpretation of Bylaw 55 with regards to attendance at departmental meetings, particularly to meetings in which personnel action discussions were taking place. Originally, CRJE noted that the Bylaws are silent with regards to attendance. However, during careful review of Bylaw 55, the committee noted two exceptions regarding participation. With respect to the rights of non-voting members to attend personnel discussions, there are some indications that Bylaw 55 that unless otherwise noted, only voting members have the right to attend. In Bylaw 55.B.1 the policy notes explicitly that in the case of new appointments, all department faculty members who are members of the Senate and who are not Emeriti have a right to participate in the process even if they do not have voting privileges. This deliberate exception is not stated in other sections of the Bylaw and is not meant to be a global principle. Similarly, in section D.2, Emeriti are explicitly given the right to participate in non-personnel discussions even though they do not vote. RJ&E determined that as these exceptions are spelled out quite explicitly, in all other cases, only voting members should participate. Further, the committee noted that the right to attend personnel discussions should be provided by the those with voting privileges for the specific rank of file being discussed, and should only be restricted by votes from that same group. Even if the right to vote is extended beyond the original empowered group of voters, CRJE concluded that the Bylaws are clear that only the 2/3 majority vote of the original group who can revoke that privilege.

SCB 13.21 – Graduate Council Charge

CRJE reviewed the proposed amendments to SCB 13.21, Graduate Council’s (GC) charge. The committee suggested that additional background information should be provided to Senate members to clarify the rationale for the revisions. Further RJ&E suggested that general wording could give the impression of weakened plenary authority. The proposed amendment was sent back to committee due to questions raised at the April 22, 2015 Senate Meeting. GC made further edits to their proposed legislation to address the concerns raised. CRJE reviewed the revised proposal to amend SCB 13.21, found no matters of concern, and determined that the new proposed revisions

clearly addressed concerns raised on the Senate floor.

Faculty Organizing Group Draft Resolution

By request, CRJE reviewed the text of a draft resolution intended for the April 22, 2015 Senate Meeting regarding the Silicon Valley Initiative. Members looked for conformance and compliance to policy and found no matters of concern.

Committee on Committees Elections:

CRJE reviewed the COC nomination petitions which were submitted by the February 2, 2015 deadline. As the number of nominees matched the number of vacancies, CRJE certified for the division the appointment of the nominees before March 2, 2015, which would have been the date of ballot distribution were an election required.

Santa Cruz Division Manual Updates:

SCB 9.1.1, 9.1.8, 9.4.1.e, 9.4.1.f, 10.1.2, and 14.1 were amended at the April 22, 2015 meeting of the Academic Senate. SCB 113.15, 13.15.1, 13.15.2, 13.21.1 – 7 were amended at the May 29, 2015 meeting of the Academic Senate. The SCB changes will be implemented in the 2015 manual per Senate Bylaws.

Additionally, a resolution calling on the Administration to provide a business plan for UCSC's Silicon Valley venture was approved at the April 22, 2015 meeting.

Respectfully Submitted;
COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION, AND ELECTIONS
Elliot Anderson
Dave Belanger
Chris Connery (W&S)
Roger Schoenman
Nancy Chen, Chair

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