

Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections
2015-16 Annual Report

To: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division

The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections (RJ&E) met quarterly in 2015-16. This report summarizes the Committee's work during the year.

Advice and Interpretation of Legislation:

Dickson Professorship Award Draft Resolution: RJ&E reviewed the draft resolution proposed by the Emeriti Association leadership for the November 3, 2015 Senate Meeting regarding the Dickson Professorship Award. Members looked for conformance and compliance to policy and focused on two questions; 1) Is it appropriate for a Senate resolution to assume delegation of rights belonging to the EVC?, 2) Does the draft resolution conform to the standard template for resolutions proposed by the Division? With regards to the first question, as the award is under the direct authority of the EVC, the RJ&E suggested that the resolution be rewritten as a "recommendation" to the CP/EVC or a "call on" the CP/EVC versus a general statement that henceforth the Emeriti Association conduct the annual selection. With regards to the second question, RJ&E referred the authors to the divisional website for exemplars of the appropriate Senate resolution format.

Committee on Education Policy Proposed Amendment to Bylaw 13.17: RJ&E reviewed the Committee on Educational Policy's (CEP) proposal to amend Bylaw 13.17 with the intention of establishing a new Committee on Courses of Instruction (CCI). The committee did not find any issues of conformance or compliance with policy but did find some ambiguity regarding the scope of CCI's authority. Members suggested that additional language explicitly stating that all duties not retained by CEP would be delegated to CCI, with a description of those so delegated, was necessary for clarity. This is because while exercising its due diligence the committee observed that on campuses with similar committees, the two committees are separate and distinct.

CEP Proposed Revisions to Appendix C: RJ&E reviewed the Committee on Educational Policy's (CEP) proposed revisions to Appendix C which describes the Undergraduate Academic Assessment Grievance Procedure. Pursuant to amendments made to Bylaw 13.17 that were approved by the Senate at its February 21, 2016 meeting, these procedures are now be under the purview of the newly established Committee on Courses of Instruction (CCI), the Academic Assessment Grievance Committee (AAGC) having been dissolved by the aforementioned legislation. RJ&E did not find any issues of conformance or compliance with established policy. The committee did, however, have some concerns with the changes in process presented in section IV of the document. These changes raised issues of procedural due process because they alter the nature of the inquiry and the presentation of evidence to the detriment of the grievant. As a remedy, the committee suggested that language pertaining to the informal investigation be rewritten so as to preserve for the grievant a right to present evidence at their discretion, not at the discretion of CCI. Additional minor editorial suggestions were offered to provide clarity to the document.

Committee on Research Proposed Amendment to Committee Charge: RJ&E reviewed the Committee on Research's (COR) proposed legislation to amend its committee charge as described in Bylaw 13.27.2, and did not find any issue of conformance but did suggest edits for clarity.

Bylaw 13.4.8: Waiver of Vote: RJ&E discussed an inquiry regarding the interpretation of Divisional Bylaw 13.4.8 in cases where a divisional member who is on leave has not waived their right to vote and has indicated in advance their intent not to vote on a specific issue. The committee determined that normal voting procedures apply in the situation described and that divisional members on leave should be marked as "absent, not voting" if they were not present for the vote or did not record a vote once a defined voting period has ended. Any advance notice of absence was deemed immaterial.

Special Committee on Athletics

RJ&E reviewed the Committee on Committee's (COC) resolution to create the Special Committee on Athletics (SCA) and did not find any issue of conformance.

Committee on Committees Elections:

RJ&E reviewed the COC nomination petitions which were submitted by the February 1 deadline. As the number of nominees matched the number of vacancies, RJ&E certified for the division the appointment of the nominees on February 3, prior to the scheduled date of ballot distribution, February 12, had an election been required.

Santa Cruz Division Manual updates:

This year the Senate Manual was updated in two significant ways. First, editorial corrections were made to the manual when gender specific pronouns were replaced with gender neutral pronouns. In all some 113 gender specific pronouns were replaced with gender neutral pronouns. Second, in the College Bylaws section, the bylaws for the ten individual colleges will each start on a new page that will be listed in the table of contents at the front of the manual. This will simplify the editing process in the future as well as make locating the bylaws of the ten colleges easier.

Respectfully submitted;
COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION, AND ELECTIONS
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