

COMMITTEE ON RULES, JURISDICTION AND ELECTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2013-14

To the Faculty Legislature, Santa Barbara Division:

The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction and Elections (RJE) provides clarification and interpretation of Senate legislation and Divisional procedures. It also exercises formal supervision over Senate elections and proposed modifications to the Senate manual, prior to action by the Faculty Legislature. Business is generally conducted via email.

Reorganization of the Undergraduate Council

RJE was asked to consider the draft bylaws related to the reorganization of the Undergraduate Council into three bodies: the Undergraduate Council, the Committee on Admissions, Enrollments, and Relations with Schools, and the Committee on Courses and General Education. Members raised concern regarding ambiguities in the bylaw language, which resulted in a number of clarifications. RJE was able to offer its endorsement, and the bylaws were approved by the Faculty Legislature.

Following RJE's review, it was discovered that Bylaw 92, with respect to the Committee on Courses and General Education, lacked the necessary language to allow for student representatives. The proposed modification to the bylaw was endorsed by RJE and subsequently approved by the Faculty Legislature.

2013-14 Divisional Election

In consultation with RJE, the Academic Senate Office conducted its annual nomination process in an effort to seek candidates for the election of a Divisional Chair, three Assembly Representatives, and four members of the Committee on Committees.

A total of three nominations were made for Divisional Chair, however two nominees subsequently declined. Given that Kum-Kum Bhavnani received all five endorsements and was unopposed, she was reappointed as Divisional Chair for 2014-16.

A total of six faculty members were nominated for the position of Senate Assembly Representative; three nominations were declined. As there were three open positions, a ballot was not conducted. Professors Charles Akemann of Mathematics, Henning Bohn of Economics, and Eric Matthys of Mechanical Engineering were appointed as Senate Assembly Representatives, effective September 1, 2014.

A total of ten faculty members were nominated to serve on the Committee on Committees; six nominations were declined or did not receive the requisite number of endorsements. For Area B (College of Letters and Science – Social Sciences Division and Gevirtz Graduate School of Education) and Area D (College of Engineering) there was only one nominee for each available position. The nominees for these areas were as follows:

Simonetta Falasca-Zamponi, Sociology (Area B)
Omer Egecioglu, Computer Science (Area D)

Given that Professors Falasca-Zamponi and Egecioglu received the requisite number of endorsements and were unopposed, they were appointed to serve as members of the Committee on Committees, effective September 1, 2014.

For Area C (College of Letters and Science – Humanities and Fine Arts Division and College of Creative Studies) there were two nominees for one available position. A ballot was conducted February 12-26, 2014, with the following results:

Silvia Bermúdez (Spanish and Portuguese) – 37.7%
Adrienne Edgar (History) – 62.3%

Adrienne Edgar was appointed to serve as a member of the Committee on Committees, effective September 1, 2014.

The remaining open position in Area A (College of Letters and Science – Mathematical, Life, and Physical Sciences Division and Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management) was filled by Committee on Committees appointment, as all nominations were declined or did not receive the requisite number of endorsements. Kevin Plaxco of Chemistry and Biochemistry was appointed to serve, effective September 1, 2014.

Appeal Process – Suspension of Admissions to an Undergraduate Program

RJE was asked to clarify the process by which an academic unit can appeal a decision by the Undergraduate Council to suspend admissions to an undergraduate program. The Committee agreed that following the Undergraduate Council's vote to suspend admissions, the academic unit may directly appeal the decision to the Faculty Legislature. As noted in Bylaw 80 D.2, the Undergraduate Council "Recommends to the Faculty Legislature undergraduate programs leading to existing and new degrees; may suspend or withdraw approval of undergraduate curricula subject to appeal to the Faculty Legislature..." RJE voted to approve this ruling.

Campus Procedures for the Enforcement of the Faculty Code of Conduct

RJE was asked to review the proposed revisions to the *Campus Procedures for the Enforcement of the Faculty Code of Conduct*. The goals of the revision were to simplify the procedural language, create a consultative process between the Charges Officer and the Charges Advisory Committee, provide a distinction between an informal complaint and formal complaint/resolution, and add timeframes for the process. Following careful consideration and significant discussion, the draft was revised based on RJE's feedback, and the Committee was able to offer its endorsement. The revised procedures were approved by the Faculty Legislature at its May meeting.

Proposed Revision of Regulations 350D.2 and 300B.1

RJE was asked to review an updated version of the Graduate Council's proposed revisions to Divisional Regulations 350D.2 and 300B.1, which govern the composition of master's thesis and doctoral committees. The request was intended to allow Lecturers with Security of Employment (LSOE) and Lecturers with Potential Security of Employment (PSOE) to serve on as a co-chair or member of student committees without exception. Finding no conflicts with existing Senate legislation, RJE offered its endorsement, and the revisions were approved by the Faculty Legislature at its May meeting.

Legislative Ruling on Divisional Regulations 46.A.2 and 105.I

RJE was asked to consider an apparent conflict between Divisional Regulations 46.A.2 and 105.I concerning the requirements for continued registration of students in the College of Creative Studies (CCS). The Committee reviewed the regulations and their legislative history, and agreed that it was the clear intention for 105.I to govern continued registration of CCS students in a major, and that it was an oversight on the part of RJE (at the time that 105.I was enacted) to neglect to take note of this conflicting language.

RJE issued a Legislative Ruling that Divisional Regulation 42.A.2 has been superseded by Divisional Regulation 105.I, until which time the Faculty Legislature can act to revise 42.A.2.

Committee Members:

Mark Srednicki, Chair

Charles Akemann, Parliamentarian

Nikki Jones (fall)

Christopher McMahon

Miriam Metzger

Staff Advisor: Shasta Delp