

Membership and Elections Committee

Academic Year 2023/2024 Annual Report

Members:

Chair: Mark Walter

Member: Lisa Marquette

Member Stacy McGrath

Member: Joshua Sokoloski (on sabbatical Fall 2023)

Member: Jathan Austin (served on the committee during Fall 2023)

Faculty Senate Designee and Member: Jeffrey Emmert

Regular Duties:

During the fall and spring semester, The Committee updated the Faculty database before elections were called. The Committee worked together to ensure the database was as accurate as possible. Maintaining a perfect faculty list is challenging because the list is very dynamic due to retirements, sabbatical leaves, resignations, and new hires.

The Committee continually updated the Committee Master Document to accurately reflect membership changes and current Faculty representation to all governance committees. This document was forwarded to the Faculty Senate Webmaster to ensure the Senate & Consortium Committee webpages reflect the actual membership for each committee.

The Committee executed its regular charge of running elections for the Senate, Senate Standing Committees, GEOC Subcommittees, and Faculty positions for the Consortium, and other committees. Self-nominations were accepted during the fall and spring semesters to replace Faculty on sabbatical or on non-sabbatical leave. Special elections were also completed to fill vacancies due to resignation and retirements for Unit and At-Large seats.

Bylaw Amendment:

As charged by the Faculty Senate, the Committee accepted votes on an amendment to the Faculty Senate Bylaws. The proposed change to the Bylaws would have amended Article VII, Section 16 of the Faculty Senate Bylaws as well as the GEOC standing rules.

As the Bylaws state, “at least seventy-five Faculty member must vote in a referendum on Bylaws or on proposed amendments to these Bylaws, and at least two-thirds of those who vote in the referendum must approve proposed Bylaws or proposed Bylaw amendments in order for them to be adopted.” There were a total of 143 votes cast. 87 were in favor of the amendment and 56 against. The 87 votes did not meet the necessary two-thirds minimum (96) and as such the amendment was not adopted.

Senate Charges:

There were no formal charges from the Faculty Senate to the Committee.