Meeting Minutes
Rules Committee
March 10, 2016, 7:45 AM
119 Independence Hall (SCR)

Present: Trisha Van Zandt, Tim Gerber, Ben Givens, Brian Winer, Stefan Niewiesk, TJ Beavers

Guests: Mike Steffensmeier, David Mess, Matt McNair

Absent: Robin Judd, Brenden Creagan, Gabriel Quinones-Betancourt, Kay Wolf, Jose Diaz

1. Proposed rule changes to 3335-5-07 Definition of faculty duties and responsibilities.

This is the rule that defines time on duty for faculty on 9-month appointments. Kay Wolf sent a suggested revision of the rule to eliminate the mention of May session and include a "typical" 9-month appointment to run from August 15 to May 15. After correction of small grammatical errors, the committee voted unanimously to send the revision to Steering.

2. Proposed rule changes to 3335-13-07 Paragraph F

Changes to who can be a PI on research sponsored by a UTCC were proposed by Tom Rosol of the research committee after the rule was already approved by faculty council. Because of possible conflict of interest issues that will be difficult to resolve and because this part of the rule is unchanged from the present rule, the committee unanimously tabled the proposed amendments with the intention of encouraging the research committee to present a formal proposal to Rules next year. The proposal will need to include a justification for the changes.

3. Proposed rule changes to 3335-13-06 and 3335-13-07 University Property

Last minute changes to the 07 rule were also forwarded by Matt McNair and David Mess of TCO and Mike Steffensmeier of OLA. These changes focused primarily on the definition of a UTCC. The definition in the new rule was provided by Mike Mitchell, formerly of OLA, but his motivation was unclear. The new definition implies that all startups would be required to go through the UTCC process defined by the rule, but current practice is that the UTCC process is only triggered when faculty hold more than 5% interest in the UTCC. OLA and TCO want this distinction to appear in the rule as a "bright line." This was not generally seen as an issue that faculty would be concerned about but the revisions were extensive enough that the committee felt the rule could no longer be placed on the Senate agenda.

Additionally, there was concern about paragraph F(9), which prevents faculty not directly involved in the UTCC from holding interest in that UTCC. Mike and Matt felt that this was too restrictive. The members of the rules committee expressed their concerns that the suggested amendments that permit holding interest open up problems of undue influence. The paragraph was rephrased to be less restrictive but a reference to a university policy dealing with undue interest must still be inserted.

A new draft of the 07 rule, with changes to paragraphs F(11) and F(12) eliminated was forwarded to Steering.

4. Proposed rule changes to 3335-5-04

The committee had a brief discussion of the relation between the 04 rule and the new Title IX procedures. A recommendation that Steering form an ad hoc committee to examine the issue was proposed.