

SMC Academic Senate Personnel Policies Committee meeting minutes
Tuesday, October 31, 2017
2:00pm to 3:00pm
Library 275

Present: Andrew Nestler (chair), Sherri Lee-Lewis (secretary), Trish Burson, Tracey Ellis, Mitch Heskell, Lisa Maier, Moya Mazorow

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05pm

II. There were no public comments.

III. There were no announcements.

IV. The minutes of the October 17 meeting were approved by all except Lisa, who arrived afterward (moved by Mitch, seconded by Moya).

V. AR 3211.3 (Department Chairperson – Tenure and Selection): The committee considered feedback on the AR from the October 24 meeting of the Academic Senate Executive Committee.

1. In section 10, language was duplicated from section 4, specifying that tenured faculty members wishing to put their names on the ballot should submit their names to both the appropriate Vice-President (or designee) and the Chair of the Elections and Rules Committee.

2. In section 6, the committee decided that exactly one runoff election should be held in the case of a tie among the top vote-getters, regardless of whether the tie was among all or merely some of the candidates.

3. One member of Exec asked if in section 9, a request for a special election originating from the appropriate Vice-President or designee should be made only after discussion and consultation with the Academic Senate President. The committee believes that requiring consultation will not achieve mutual agreement, although we expect to have confirmation or additional information on this at the next meeting. The committee believes that the Vice-President or designee calling for a special election should notify the President of the Academic Senate, and we can add language to that effect.

4. Our research informed us that in two recent instances, probationary faculty members were the only candidates in chair elections, and following the elections they were appointed chairs.

Exec asked the committee to consider formalizing the possibility of permitting fourth-year probationary faculty members being candidates for department chair. The committee was concerned that a probationary faculty member might get the

most votes in an election, but learn later in that same fall semester that they did not receive tenure. Also it could be that a probationary faculty member is running against the current department chair, who sits on the other faculty member's evaluation committee. The consensus of the committee was that, in the event that no tenured faculty members submit their names for the ballot, fourth-year probationary faculty members could submit their names for consideration by the Superintendent/President for appointment as chair.

The committee secretary will seek feedback and guidance from senior staff, and the committee will consider that information and a revised draft of this AR at its next meeting, scheduled for November 14.

VI. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm (moved by Mitch, seconded by Sherri, and approved unanimously).