

Constitution Committee Agenda
November 12, 2013
3:00 – 5 p.m.
Oral History Room, Pugh Hall

1. **Welcome** – Tace Hedrick, Chair
2. **Approve October 2013 Minutes** – Tace Hedrick, Chair
3. **PHP/COM vote for Senate Representatives Update** – Patricia Morgan
4. **Constitution Problem for Engineering** – Tace Hedrick, Chair

Next meeting: December 10, 2013

University Constitution Committee Minutes (DRAFT)
October 8, 2013 3:00– 4:30 p.m.
Pugh Hall Oral History Conference Room

Attendance:

Tace Hedrick
Barbara Wingo
Patricia Morgan
Sue Alvers
Jacqueline Swank
Christine Fruin
Ralph Rice
David Groisser
Robert Cook (via phone)

Tace Hedrick, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. After introductions, the April 2013 minutes were approved.

PHHP/COM Vote for Senate Rep Revisited – Robert Cook, PHHP College Council Chair, Dept. of Epidemiology

(Background: The Constitution Committee recommended on November 28, 2012 that all faculty in departments in dual colleges who have not expressed membership in one college or other belong in Group 1 unit for purposes of Senate membership, voting, and apportionment)

- Robert Cook noted that currently, some faculty are assigned to COM, some to PHHP, and most are in Group 1 for senate voting. The two departments (Epidemiology and Biostatistics) do not see that as a feasible solution. Both departments are asking for the Constitution Committee to recommend that their faculty should count towards PHHP for Faculty Senate consideration.
- After a long discussion, the Constitution Committee recommended (with a unanimous vote) that all faculty in Epidemiology and Biostatistics are counted towards Group 1 for Faculty Senate consideration. Jacqueline Swank made the motion and Ralph Rice seconded it. If after trying this process PHHP is still discontented, then the Constitution Committee will revisit the issue. Patricia Morgan will contact Robert Cook, Mike Perri (PHHP dean), and the two departments to explain the Constitution Committee's decision.

Designation of Senators on Sabbatical - Should they be considered offsite?

Currently senators on sabbatical are considered to be on leave of absence for Faculty Senate meetings. However we have had requests recently from senators going on sabbatical to be considered "offsite" so that they can participate in senate meetings. "Offsite" senators are those who have a permanent appointment away from Gainesville such as College of Medicine – Jacksonville or the IFAS extension group. After discussion, the committee decided to table this item so that Barbara Wingo can research the definition of "leave of absence" in the regulations.

The meeting adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

Alvers,Susan M

Subject: FW: Constitution Problem for Engineering

>>
>>
>> Begin forwarded message:
>>
>>> From: Joseph Wilson <jnw@cise.ufl.edu>
>>> Subject: Constitution Problem for Engineering
>>> Date: October 7, 2013 2:02:19 PM EDT
>>> To: race@ufl.edu
>>>
>>> Dear Dr. Hedrick:
>>>
>>> I'm writing with an issue that has come up in our attempt to amend
>>> the Engineering College Constitution to be consistent with our
>>> current structure.
>>>
>>> Engineering currently has a structure that includes many departments
>>> and one school, viz., the Engineering School of Sustainable
>>> Infrastructure and Environment. This school is headed by a Director
>>> (appointed by the
>>> Dean) and its academic programs are supported by two departments
>>> headed by Department Heads (appointed by the Director). Because
>>> there is no job title of "Department Head," these people are
>>> currently given Associate Chair assignments by personnel. (This is a
>>> hint at our problem.)
>>>
>>> The UF Constitution Article VI.3.(C-D) states (among other things) that:
>>>
>>> (C) The program of a department shall be conducted by the
>>> departmental faculty through a chair, who shall have general responsibility for the activities of the department.
>>>
>>> (D) The chair shall be nominated by the dean(s) of the college(s)
>>> after formal consultation with a committee of the department
>>> selected by its tenured members and after consultation with others
>>> in related fields outside the department. The nominations shall be forwarded to the President for approval.
>>>
>>> So our problem is this:
>>>
>>> About a year and a half ago, the Faculty Senate approved a proposal
>>> to create a school in Engineering whose structure is incompatible
>>> with the UF Constitution. Now that we want to update our Engineering
>>> Constitution to match our current structure, we find that doing so
>>> will cause our constitution to be inconsistent with UF's, which cannot be supported.
>>>
>>> As I see it, we have two options:

>>>

>>> 1. Modify the UF Constitution to allow the Faculty-Senate-approved
>>> structure of the Engineering school.

>>> 2. Modify the structure of the Engineering School to be consistent
>>> with the current UF Constitution.

>>>

>>> The method of resolution makes no difference to me, however, I have
>>> been asked by our Engineering Faculty Council to bring this to the
>>> UF Senate Constitution committee. I suspect they rightly believe
>>> that our Dean and the Provost will be more satisfied with option 1 than option 2.

>>>

>>> What are your thoughts concerning this matter?

>>>

>>>

>>> Joseph N. Wilson

>>>