

## **Annual update of Committee on Committees, Fall 2022 – Spring 2023**

### CoC Members (2022-2023)

Paramita Chakrabarty, Chair  
Patrick A Klager  
Lori Knackstedt  
Luisa Amelia Dempere  
Joseph Riley  
Nian Wang

### Incoming Chair for 2023-2024:

Luisa Amelia Dempere (elected by voting by CoC members)

The responsibility of the Committee on Committees is to conduct a review of all Senate Committees, with emphasis on consideration of the selection process for members, the purpose of the committees, and attendance at committee meetings. Following these reviews, the CoC retains the responsibility of recommending to the Senate the addition, reclassification, or dissolution of any Senate Committee, transformation of existing Presidential Committees into Joint Committees, or vice versa, and assignments of committees to Senate Policy Councils as Contributing or Related Committees. The CoC is also responsible for recommending any special qualifications for Senate Councils and Senate Committees to the Faculty Senate. Such special qualifications will be reviewed and incorporated in the Constitution and in the Senate Bylaws.

Following a triennial review in 2021, the CoC was charged with reviewing one-third of the CoC review eligible committees every year. This would facilitate regular periodic review process of all the existing committee and help identify any concerns in a timely manner. The [2021 - 2022 Committee on Committees Report](#) was presented to the Senate Steering Committee in April 2022 (see asterisked list at the end of document). In 2022-2023, the Committee on Committees (CoC) reviewed nine University of Florida committees and councils as listed below. A recommendation of the review order for 2023-2024 is presented at the end of this document.

### **List of committees and councils reviewed by the CoC: 2022-2023**

- University Constitution & Regulations Committee (UCRC) – Oct 2022
- Academic Personnel Board – Nov 2022
- Welfare Council – Nov 2022
- Compensation & Equity Committee – Dec 2022
- Student Petitions Committee – Dec 2022
- University Libraries Committee (ULC) – Jan 2023
- Sustainability Committee – Jan 2023
- Budget Council – Feb 2023
- Research Policy Committee – Mar 2023
- Committee on Committees – Apr 2023 (self-report)

A brief summary of annual reviews conducted by CoC in 2022-2023 is appended below. More detailed information is available in the meetings posted [here](#).

- **University Constitution & Regulations Committee (UCRC) – Charlene Luke, Chair**  
**Reporting Date: October 10, 2022**

Dr. Luke, the chair of UCRC, presented updates in October 2022 meeting. The major responsibility of UCRC is to review provisions of the University Constitution and make recommendations in connection there with to the Faculty Senate. Changes to the Constitution which are proposed to the Senate are first referred to the Constitution Committee for consideration which then prepares recommendation to the Senate on the matter. UCRC has been meeting regularly, once a month and the meetings are well-attended. UCRC has established and follows a set of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to assure efficiency and consistency in work flow. Overall, there are no concerns about this committee as Dr. Luke had no current procedural or infrastructural issues to report.

- **Academic Personnel Board (APB) – Chris Hass, APB Non-Voting Secretary and Chair**  
**Reporting Date: November 14, 2022**

Dr. Hass presented updates in November 2022. The APB advises the President with respect to promotion and tenure (P&T) nominations, and its main role is to serve as a fact-finding and consultative group. The group has a strict policy of mandatory attendance and additionally it has been able to achieve a diversity in representation over the past years. The Panel follows a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) during its review process. Dr. Hass also spoke about the challenges with managing the annual workload for the committee. For example, 200 P&T packets were reviewed last year and currently there are 400 P&T packets pending. Dr. Hass suggested that increasing the number of members in APB panel which would considerably make the packet review process more efficient and less burdensome in terms of individual assignments. The main challenge is a paucity of viable candidates that are nominated each year for this panel.

- **Welfare Council – Dr. Sarah Lynne, Chair**  
**Reporting Date: November 14, 2022**

Dr. Lynne attended the November 2022 meeting on behalf of the Welfare Council. The Welfare Council deals with issues related to faculty rights and academic freedom; faculty support programs, such as fringe benefit packages; faculty diversity; and programs that improve the quality of faculty life. The Welfare Council members are engaged and attend meetings regularly. Starting this year, the Welfare Council will have an undergraduate student representative. This committee works with other committees – for example, Dr. Hass (administrative and human resources liaison), Dr. Raymond (AFTPRS chair), and Dr. Trainor (Compensations & Equity Chair) attend regularly. The Committee does not follow a Standard Operating Procedure as the scope of council's work is constantly evolving and is based on the needs and context of different stakeholder issues. A challenge is maintaining the continuity of institutional knowledge of the various topics discussed by the Council at different times. A means to create institutional memory in the form of a searchable database of minutes was suggested, which could enable locating previously discussed topics easily, even when administrative liaisons who initially handled these topics have rotated off.

- **Student Petitions Committee - Deborah Mayhew, Chair**

**Reporting Date: December 12, 2022**

The Students Petitions Committee (SPC) meets weekly to discuss petitions from students requesting waivers of University academic regulations. This committee which has representation from faculty, staff and students is functioning efficiently. The Committee works closely with the Ombuds office and the Medical Petitions Committee. The Standard Operating Procedures of SPC are posted on the Registrar's website. There are no critical issues that need to be addressed for this committee.

- **Compensation and Equity Committee - Sean Trainor, Chair**  
**Reporting Date: December 12, 2022**

The Compensation and Equity Committee presented its updates in November 2022. This committee evaluates and makes recommendations concerning matters of equity such as compensation, benefits, resources, and opportunities. Overall, the committee has been productive and has forwarded major resolutions to the senate in the past year. The committee focuses on benefits, equitable working conditions, and contract structure while other issues such as paycheck-related issues are generally considered outside the scope. The committee liaises with Welfare council and the Budget Council which have resulted in positive cooperation. Currently, the committee does not have a Standard Operating Procedure that allows them to be flexible in terms of how the committee tackles each issue. Some major challenges for this committee are: how to disseminate their data and recommendations to faculty at to gain more traction; how to positively engage the administrators to recognize critical issues related to equitable working conditions; lack of diverse representations on the committee; and lack of engagement from current members in terms of regular meeting attendance. The CoC recommends that these issues be addressed by the Committee internally and then outcomes discussed with the CoC in the near future.

- **University Libraries Committee (ULC) - Josepha Cheong, Chair**  
**Reporting Date: January 9, 2023**

The Universities Library Committee presented its update in January 2023. The ULC assists the Dean of University Libraries in maintaining and promoting the welfare of the University Libraries by way of reviewing and formulating library policies that serve the needs and concerns of the faculty and students. The ULC is functionally optimally, with regular attendance by its membership made up of representatives from student government; non-voting representatives from different libraries; as well as others who participate out of pure interest. This committee works closely with different colleges, departments and other senate committees. The Standard Operating Procedures of ULC can be found on UF Fora website. The ULC are currently tackling some major initiatives. No critical issues were identified for ULC.

- **Sustainability Committee – Ariel Pomputius, Chair; Matthew Williams, Director of Office of Sustainability**  
**Reporting Date: January 9, 2023**

The Sustainability Committee met with the CoC in January 2023. In cooperation with the Office of Sustainability, this committee promotes sustainability within the University and in the University's relations with the larger community by recommending best practices and promoting policy development. The committee membership is diverse and has representations from staff, faculty, students and administrative liaisons. Its meetings are well-attended. Other strengths of the committee include a collections of members who are passionate about sustainability, have deep knowledge about

relevant policies and practices and are willing to share/enact broad ideas that are relevant to the specific needs of the project. Several areas of potential growth include establishing partnerships with other committees that would help in enacting recommendations; how to be a vehicle for real-time sustainability practices beyond enabling recommendations and resolutions; and how to facilitate wider engagement from UF community in its meetings. The Sustainability committee does not have a Standard Operating Procedure but will investigate the feasibility of following a SOP. The CoC recommends a follow-up with the Sustainability Committee on these issues.

- **Budget Council – Ashley Ghiaseddin, Chair**  
**Reporting Date: February 13, 2023**

The Budget Council met with CoC in February 2023. The Budget Council oversees budgetary and fiscal matters as they involve the academic mission of the University. Their mission includes the recommendation of budget priorities involving academics and research, the fiscal implications of the creation, modification or deletion of academic programs, the collection and dissemination of information about University budgeting and planning; and monitoring whether the allocation of resources is consistent with Faculty Senate actions and the University's long term and short term strategic plans. The Budget Council has been working on a major draft resolution that was submitted for Steering Committee discussion in April. Some major issues that the committee is working on are around transparency, engagement of general faculty in policies being recommended and generating a framework for budget model. The Budget Council has no Standard Operating Procedure. Its meeting minutes are available on the website. While the Budget Council has no workflow issues that hinders its regular activities, the CoC recommends updating the Financial Transparency Portal data in the interest of transparency and shared governance.

- **Research Policy Committee – David Norton, Chair**  
**Reporting date: March 27, 2023**

The Research Policy Committee advises the Vice President for Research on matters of University-wide policies related to the promotion and development of the University's research program. This committee has a diverse composition and meets monthly. Some topics that were considered by the committee recently have been: impact of proposed federal legislation on research; impact of animal and human regulatory compliance on research. There have been recent efforts to use real time networking tools to engage researchers and stimulate collaborations. The Research Policy Committee has been engaging faculty to find ways to navigate the changes related to research coming from new laws and regulations.

#### **Pending Committee presentations (2023-2024):**

At the start of 2022-2023 session, the CoC was informed that a new Committee on Legislative Outreach will be formed in 2023 and this committee will come before CoC to present its mission and vision. The CoC recommends that this committee be invited to present in the 2023-2024 session. Other committees that are scheduled to meet with CoC in 2023-2024 are:

- Senate Steering Committee
- Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards

- Graduate Council
- University Curriculum Committee
- Lakes, Vegetation, & Landscaping Committee
- Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee
- Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee
- Infrastructure Council
- Committee on Committees (self-report: each year)

**\*Reviewed in 2021 – 2022**

- (New Committee) Professional Curriculum Committee (PCC) – Reported Oct 2021
- Parking & Transportation Committee (PATC) – Reported Nov 2021
- Research & Scholarship Council – Reported Nov 2021
- Senate Nominating Committee – Reported Dec 2021
- Academic Policy Council (APC) – Reported Dec 2021
- General Education Committee (GEC) – Reported Jan 2022
- Academic Assessment Committee – Reported Jan 2022
- Academic Freedom, Tenure, Professional Relations, & Standards (AFTPRS) Committee – Reported Feb 2022
- University Information Technology Committee – Reported Feb 2022
  - Committee on Committees (each year) – Reported Apr 2022