

Minutes

The Committee on Bylaws

September 18, 2003

Submitted by Susan Jacobowitz

Present: P. Bales, Chair  
J. Treue  
P. Marchese  
S. Jacobowitz

Absent: P. Gengo

- 1) Future meetings will be held on the third Thursday of each month, at 3:00 p.m., in M-127. Our next meeting will be on October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 2) Copies of the Middle States 2004 Periodic Review were distributed. We will evaluate the document to see what might apply to our Committee and make appropriate suggestions. Special attention will be paid to the Student Support/Advisement section and to the section on Missions, Goals, Objectives and Assessment Outcomes to see how changes to the Bylaws might apply.
- 3) There was some discussion last Spring about whether or not some changes should be made in the Bylaws to make the Bylaws better reflect the current reality. In particular, representation by students on all of the committees came up. It's not desirable to eliminate student representatives or even necessarily decrease the number of students who are required to participate in each committee, but the reality has been that it has been extremely difficult for students to serve.
- 4) We discussed linking the participation of students on standing committees to courses in which they are enrolled. The link could be through a requirement like English 101 or to courses offered by the Political Science department where there might be a natural connection. We could try and recruit students this way, and offer extra credit or some other incentive to encourage participation, keeping in mind that there should be other avenues open to earn extra credit for those students who, because of time constraints, might find it impossible to serve in this particular capacity. We only need about sixteen students to participate and it could be a good thing for students to have on their resumes.
- 5) For reference and background, copies of the current Bylaws will be distributed to committee members via e-mail.
- 6) We confirmed that our mission is to consider and make recommendations re: the Bylaws of the Academic Senate, the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees and, upon request of the Executive Committee of the Faculty, the Bylaws of the Faculty.

