



UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE RECORD

The April meeting of the University Faculty will be held on Tuesday, April 1, 2008 and continue, if needed, on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 in the Langone Center Forum beginning at 12:00 p.m. and running until 12:52 p.m. or the conclusion of business, whichever comes first. Professor Martin Ligare, Chairperson of the Faculty, will preside. Any corrections to the March 2008 minutes should be sent to Faculty Secretary Philippe Dubois prior to the meeting.

AGENDA

- 1. Amendments to and approval of March 2008 minutes**
- 2. Announcements and remarks by the President**
- 3. Announcements and remarks by the Chair of the Faculty**

Nominations for Faculty Governance positions will be forthcoming from the Faculty Council and the Nominating Committee for the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure. After announcement of these nominations five days will be allowed for additional nominations prior to the April election.

4. Committee Reports:

a. Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee

- i. FAPC Motion on Revising the Faculty Council Charge.

The Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee is proposing a revision to the Faculty Handbook to create a formal charge for the Faculty Council that better reflects current practices. The text of the proposed amendment appears in the Appendix to this Agenda.

Rationale:

The Faculty Council is already serving in the capacity outlined above, so to some degree we are suggesting changes to the handbook that more accurately mirror current practices. Nevertheless, this change in the Faculty Handbook is important in that it formalizes the Faculty Council's role in governance as a coordinating and advisory body, and as the first line of governance for issues not already covered under the existing definitions of faculty governance. FAPC believes that this change clarifies and improves faculty governance structures.

Note from the Chair: This amendment was introduced during the March 2008 meeting. After the motion was seconded Professor Marsh pointed out that passages of the amendment would necessitate additional changes to the language in other parts of the Handbook. The Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee has identified other Handbook language that should change, and those changes are included in the text of the Amendment that is a part of this Agenda. I will suggest that these additions to the amendment do not change the intent or substance of the original motion, and I will propose that we vote on the motion as it appears in this Agenda, not as it appeared when originally introduced in March. If there is objection to this procedure we will return to the original motion and treat the additional changes as amendments to the motion.

- ii. The second report from the Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee appears in the Appendix to this Agenda.

b. Committee on Planning and Budget

CPB has been discussing the FY2008-09 budget. Due to the national and global economic downturn causing reduced revenue from interest income and pressure on comprehensive fee and other revenue sources, some adjustments to the preliminary FY08-09 budget are necessary to achieve a balanced budget. To achieve a balanced budget, certain requested increases, primarily for new initiatives, will be reduced or deferred. The budget contingency, which is traditionally 1.0% - 1.25% of gross revenues, is expected to be reduced to 0.75%. This amount remains financially responsible but will limit budget flexibility in FY08-09. It is important to know that budget balancing is being done with the continued expectation of achieving the 5-course load and maintaining the previously approved increases in faculty and staff salaries.

c. Committee on Complementary Activities

d. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

e. Committee on Staff Planning

f. Committee on Faculty Development

g. Committee on Honorary Degrees

h. University Review Committee

i. Committee on Instruction

5. Announcement and remarks by members of the President's staff

6. Announcement from Bucknell Student Government

- a. Faculty office hours published on internal "people search" results.
- b. Collegiate Readership Program opportunity for faculty involvement and free subscriptions to The New York Times.

7. New business

8. Adjournment

APPENDIX

Report from the Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee, April 2008

FAPC is proposing the following revisions to the Faculty Handbook to create a formal charge for the Faculty Council that better reflects current practices.

Change 1. Addition of the charge for the faculty council to section II.C:

1. FACULTY COUNCIL

Faculty Council fosters the operation of a responsive and inclusive Faculty governance system. Faculty Council supports the committee system by consulting with and coordinating the Faculty and University committees, by facilitating inter-committee communication, and by providing advice, oversight and guidance to insure that Faculty governance processes are executed effectively. The Faculty Council insures that committees other than the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (see II.F) are populated, by preparing lists of nominees, soliciting additional nominees from the Faculty, and organizing elections to fill positions vacated by the routine cycle of terms, and by that means or by appointment to fill positions vacated mid-term. The Faculty Council also plays a role in some termination of contract issues and in proceedings to impose severe sanctions on a member of the faculty (see section III.M.1 and section III.N of the Faculty Handbook, and Regulation 5b of the AAUP Recommended Institutional Regulations on Academic Freedom and Tenure (1999)).

The Faculty Council helps to set the long-term agenda of the Faculty by identifying and reporting pending issues of importance to the Faculty with regard to governance and to the academic mission of the University. Faculty Council facilitates communication between the Faculty and the Administration by meeting regularly with the University Council and by providing advice to the president as requested on matters of substance and process. In consultation with the Faculty and University committees, the Faculty Council advises the administration and makes recommendations on strategic planning through the University Council and otherwise as requested. The Faculty Council responds to issues of Faculty concern that are not under the purview of existing parts of the Faculty governance system, to act upon them or to direct them to an existing or *ad hoc* Faculty body. The Faculty Council receives governance matters when the Faculty is unable to meet, and may speak for the Faculty at such times if it believes this is necessary. When Faculty Council has acted for the Faculty because of the nature of the issue or because of its timing, Faculty Council will consult with relevant committees, will report actions to the Faculty, and will seek to integrate issues into normal governance channels, in a timely fashion.

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Membership:

Chairperson of the Faculty

Secretary of the Faculty

Four members of the Faculty elected from each of the standard groups (see II.F.6)

One untenured member of the Faculty, to be replaced upon receiving tenure

The Chairperson of the Faculty will serve as the chairperson of the Faculty Council.

Change 2. Update the Table of Contents:

II UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

A. INTRODUCTION1
B. FACULTY MEETINGS1
C. FACULTY COMMITTEES1

- 1. Faculty Council
- 2. Committee on Faculty and Academic Personnel
- 3. Committee on Faculty Development
- 4. Committee on Honorary Degrees
- 5. Committee on Staff Planning
- 6. University Review Committee
- 7. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

- Deleted: 1
- Deleted: 2
- Deleted: 3
- Deleted: 4
- Deleted: 5
- Deleted: 6

Note: there may be additional changes to numberings and references in the handbook as a result of this renumbering.

Change 3. Update the first section of II.C.:

II. C. FACULTY COMMITTEES

The seven standing Faculty committees are:

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- 1. Faculty Council
- 2. Committee on Faculty and Academic Personnel
- 3. Committee on Faculty Development
- 4. Committee on Honorary Degrees
- 5. Committee on Staff Planning
- 6. University Review Committee
- 7. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

- Deleted: 1
- Deleted: 2
- Deleted: 3
- Deleted: 4
- Deleted: 5
- Deleted: 6

Change 4. Alter section II. E. on the UNIVERSITY COUNCIL to remove sections now covered in the new Faculty Council Charge:

The membership of the Council includes the President (chair); Provost; Vice President for Finance and Administration; the Deans of the Colleges; the members of the Faculty Council; the President of the Congress of the BSG, and three students elected by the Congress. The President may designate members of the Faculty and of the administration or students as members of the Council, for such terms as he/she shall specify. In no case will the total faculty membership be less than the total administration membership, and in no case will the total student membership be less than fifty percent of the total faculty membership. The University Council will not exceed twenty members.

- Deleted: one representative from each of the four standard divisions of the Faculty, elected for three-year terms; one untenured faculty member elected at large for a three-year term
- Deleted: Faculty Chairperson and Secretary;

Change 5. Update section II.A regarding the number of standing committees:

II. A. INTRODUCTION

The Faculty carries out its duties in formulating policies and establishing procedures through Faculty meetings and its participation in ten standing committees and the University Council. As appropriate, policies related to specified aspects of the University's educational program are implemented through the Colleges, the Deans of the Colleges, departments of instruction and interdepartmental programs, department chairpersons, and the student government.

Deleted: The faculty members of the University Council will meet as a Faculty Council. Chaired by the Chairperson of the Faculty, the Faculty Council, in consultation with the University Council, administers elections of faculty members to all standing committees, except the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure.

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Change 6. Alter Section II.F regarding election procedures for faculty committees for greater clarity and accuracy:

F. GENERAL PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION TO AND MEMBERSHIP ON FACULTY COMMITTEES (except the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure) and UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES;

Deleted: , AND THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

Deleted: ,

1. Elections of faculty members to Faculty Committees and University Committees are held simultaneously in April following the regular April meeting of the Faculty. Preliminary nominations from the Faculty Council for all positions will be distributed at least five days prior to the April Faculty Meeting.

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Deleted: , and the University Council

Rationale for Change 6: faculty members who are elected to the Faculty Council are by definition members of the University Council so it is redundant to include "The University Council" in the language above. Faculty members are not elected independently to the University Council.

Second Report from the Faculty and Academic Personnel Committee, April 2008

1. You will be receiving a letter from Human Resources asking if you would like your salary to be paid over a 10-month or 12-month period. You are still able to select either of these options. However, due to IRS regulations, you must confirm if you wish to receive your pay over 10 months instead of over 12 months. As with any issue having to do with compensation and remuneration, you should consult with your financial advisor about the possible financial implications of being paid over a shorter time frame, if this option is something you are considering.
2. Beginning April 1, Bucknell is making available an on-line suggestion box via myBucknell. The purpose of the suggestion box is to solicit your suggestions for improving the work climate at Bucknell. The Personnel Committee will read your suggestions and funnel them to the appropriate bodies that might be able to address them. We are hoping to identify concrete suggestions to improve the

work environment in the short term, along with some longer-term initiatives that the university should consider. Right now, there is no formal mechanism for faculty to communicate their ideas for improving or their concerns about the work environment. We hope that this suggestion box provides a productive outlet for your thoughts in this area.