

University Senate Standing Committees

Excerpted from the Senate Constitution, only those committees on which there is staff representation

Committee Functions

In its executive functions a standing committee shall be empowered to act for the Senate indirectly advising an officer of the Administration on current policy. In its advisory functions a committee shall submit recommendations to the Senate unless otherwise specified below. The following shall be standing committees of the Senate, each with the functions and powers indicated.

Committee on Budget Review: Functions

Advisory:

- 1) To review the conformity of the annual University budget with short-range and long-range priorities of the University and expressions of policy by the Senate.
- 2) The Chair of the Committee shall sit with the appropriate committees of the administration as they formulate budget-policy guidelines for the coming year and when categories of the budget are discussed and adopted.
- 3) The Committee on Budget Review shall bring to the attention of the Senate any instances of purported inconsistencies of the budget with priorities or policies as well as any other allocations which in the committee's opinion are not in the best interests of the University.
- 4) The Committee shall review the budget proposed by each of the academic constituencies prior to its adoption by the Administration.
- 5) The Committee may respond to requests from the President, or offer advice directly to the President. Concurrently, the Committee shall report such advice to the Senate.
- 6) To review regularly with the Senior Vice President for External Affairs and Chief Operating Officer matters pertaining to the development activities of the University and to make recommendations to the Senate in the area of development.

Committee on Equal Opportunity and Institutional Equity: Functions

Advisory: To advise the Senate on the development and implementation of policies, procedures and practices pertaining to

- 1) recruiting and retaining a more diverse faculty, staff and student body;
- 2) enhancing the implementation of diversity policies;
- 3) improving the climate for under-represented faculty, staff and students.

In fulfilling its advisory functions, the Committee is expected to work closely with the Office of Institutional Equity and other responsible parties with roles in improving affirmative action, institutional equity, and diversity at the University.

Committee on Faculty and Staff Benefits

Advisory: on the study and development of benefit plans including, but not limited to, educational benefits for dependents, insurance, housing, retirement programs, sabbaticals, and leaves.

Committee on Information Technology: Functions

Executive: to review, evaluate, and recommend strategies, plans, and policies that will lead to optimal use and development of information technology. This will include:

- 1) reviewing technology infrastructure needs of the University community to support teaching, administration and research;
- 2) evaluating strategic directions, current and future capabilities, and objectives for campus IT support, including learning technologies;
- 3) recommending methods for coordinated implementation of campus IT projects and initiatives; and
- 4) reviewing the annual budget proposals for centralized IT facilities and services.

Advisory: to make recommendations to the Senate in this area.

Committee on Physical Facilities: Functions

Advisory: on the development of plans for the physical facilities of the University, including general policies on allocations of space and physical plant.

There shall be at least one standing sub-committee, The Sub-committee on Traffic and Security, having the following functions:

- 1) Executive: pertaining to reserved space for parking.
- 2) Judicial: for assessment of fines or appeals for traffic violations.
- 3) Advisory: to make recommendations to the Administration

Committee on Social Issues: Functions

Executive:

- 1) To review, in response to petitions brought forth from the faculty, staff, and/or students of the university, university policies and practices that do not fall within the purview of other Standing Senate Committees, or aspects of such policies and practices, that may be inconsistent with fundamental human values.
- 2) To review regularly with the President of the University matters pertaining to social issues affecting the university.

Committee on Committees: Functions

Executive:

- 1) Except where otherwise provided, to appoint members of Senate standing committees.
- 2) To nominate prior to the first Senate meeting each year a slate of full-time faculty members who are not elected senators, preferably from among Senate committee chairs for positions as Senate Members-at-Large.
- 3) Except where otherwise provided, to appoint, with the concurrence of the President, the chairs (and deputy chairs as needed) of Senate standing committees from among the elected Senators whenever appropriate and feasible.
- 4) At the direction of the Senate to form ad hoc committees.
- 5) To review Senate committee structure and function every six years. [Secretary's Note: Begun in academic year 2001-02]
- 6) To replace committee members whom it has appointed to other committees and who are not fulfilling their duties to those committees.

Advisory: to the Secretary of the Senate on matters specified in Article III, Section (c) of the Constitution.