

Faculty Senate and University Assembly  
University of Missouri-St. Louis

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON  
September 4, 2007

- I. Welcome
- II. Introduction of Committee Chairs, Secretary, and Parliamentarian
- III. Evaluation of Deans
  - a. The survey was administered by the Assembly's Committee on Administrator Evaluation through an on-line system.
  - b. Reports tabulated by the committee were reviewed by the Steering Committee and distributed. Response rates were quite low in some units. Staff participation was so low that only summaries were given to deans in order to protect anonymity. Written remarks were received only by the deans about which they were written, and the Provost.
- IV. Response to 5-year administrative review
  - a. Team members:
    - i. Dr. Lawrence Barton, Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, chair
    - ii. Ms. Mary Brown, past president of Staff Association, IT
    - iii. Mr. Bryan Goers, SGA president
    - iv. Dr. David Curry, Professor, CCJ
    - v. Dr. Gary Ebersole, Faculty Senate chair, UMKC
  - b. Recommendations
    - i. Adopt a mission statement
      - 1. The group working on HLC accreditation also called for a mission statement for all academic and administrative units.
      - 2. A mission statement will be proposed by the Steering Committee when we have committee reports.
    - ii. Re-establish governance list-serve
      - 1. The Steering Committee agrees that this would be a good way to foster communication and debate.
      - 2. Anyone wishing to volunteer to set up and monitor a Senate & Assembly list-serve, please let me know.
    - iii. Increase representation of staff
      - 1. Steering Committee agreed that this should be reviewed and considered.

2. By-laws & Rules Committee has been charged with considering the representation issues of staff and working with the Staff Association on this matter.
- iv. Provide representation of Honors College
    1. Steering Committee believed that the Honors College was similar to the Graduate School (and the former Evening College) in the sense that it does not employ a significant number of full-time faculty of its "own."
    2. Therefore this did not seem to require immediate attention.
  - v. Increase terms of committee service to 3 years
    1. By-laws & Rules committee has been charged with considering the length of service recommendation.
  - vi. Improve attendance and involvement of administrators
    1. The Steering Committee did not perceive a big problem with administrator attendance that the review team did.
    2. We certainly encourage administrator attendance but did not think that committing resources to finding ways to "enforce" attendance would be reasonable at this time.
  - vii. Formalize compensation for Senate/Assembly chair
    1. By-Laws & Rules Committee has been charged with considering whether the Operating Rules should be modified to formalize a minimum compensation for the Senate/Assembly chair.
- c. Follow-up on the Self-study report
- i. Steering committee has asked the By-Laws & rules committee to evaluate whether there is a possibility for consolidation of committees to reduce the demand on faculty time commitment.
  - ii. The extensive, detailed legalistic nature of our by-laws was of concern to the Steering Committee, so the By-Laws & rules committee has been asked to consider whether operating rules could be used for the details so that the by-laws could be streamlined. This would enhance flexibility in making changes in roles of committees and other operations of the Senate and Assembly.