

Governance Committee
Sandra Rezac, Chair
182nd Spring Plenary at SUNY Potsdam
April 11-13, 2019

Charge: The Committee will concern itself with University-wide governance and shall provide guidance on matters of campus governance. The committee shall interact with local governance leaders of the University. The committee is responsible for the publication of the Governance Handbook and will review and update it every four years.

2018-19 Committee Members:

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Committee Goals for 2018-19:

1. Bylaws revision.
2. Standing rules revision. (These were formerly called procedures in the Bylaws and Procedures handbook.)
3. Rubric on the assessment of shared governance.
4. Ombuds services resolution.
5. Revisit the verification of campus governance consultation (“program action”) resolution.
This is a joint project with members of the Undergraduate Committee.
6. Professional staff participation in shared governance resolution.
7. Index/library of UFS documents.
8. Contingent staff and shared governance resolution.
9. Election handbook update.
10. Best practices for administrative searches. This will be postponed until 2019-20.
11. Review and revise the Governance Handbook. This will be postponed until 2019-20.

Committee meeting dates (include type of meeting):

Since our last report, the following conference calls and meetings have been held:

January 22, 2019. Bylaws subcommittee conference call.

February 22-23, 2019. Bylaws subcommittee meeting in Albany, NY. This was an in-person meeting focused on the standing rules.

February 25, 2019. Governance Committee conference call. We discussed and finalized the Resolution on the Expectation of Non-Academic Professional Staff to Participate in Shared Governance. We also made some revisions to the Nominations and Elections Handbook.

March 18, 2019. Bylaws subcommittee conference call. We continued our work on the standing rules.

March 27, 2019. Governance Committee conference call. We discussed several of the significant changes suggested by the bylaws subcommittee.

April 1, 2019. Bylaws subcommittee conference call. We continued discussing proposed revisions to the standing rules, and discussed feedback we received from the full Governance Committee on bylaws revisions.

Committee accomplishments since previous UFS Plenary:

Since the Winter 2019 Plenary, we have made progress on or completed goals 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 & 9.

Goals 1&2. Bylaws and standing rules. The subcommittee met for two days in February, and held three conference calls to continue reviewing and revising the UFS bylaws and standing rules. More recent meetings have focused on the standing rules section of this document, and we have begun to seek feedback from the full Governance Committee regarding the suggested revisions.

Goal 4. Ombuds services resolution. This resolution was defeated at the UFS Winter Plenary.

Goal 5. Program Action. Data has been collected in a survey of current Senators and CGLs about whether or not their campuses had documents or policies requiring governance review of academic program actions, and if additional governance review was required of amended proposals before being submitted to SUNY system. We also asked for information about any situations on local campuses in which governance was not adequately consulted regarding program actions.

Goal 6. We completed a resolution regarding non-academic professional staff involvement in shared governance. This resolution is on the agenda for a vote at the UFS Spring Plenary.

Goal 9. We received feedback from users of the *Nominating Committee and Elections Procedures Handbook*, which was updated in the fall of 2018. We made some minor revisions to the document.

Requests to UFS Senators from committee:

Please continue to familiarize yourselves with and provide feedback on the existing UFS bylaws, and on the proposed changes being discussed at this plenary.