

**Minutes of the CAS ad-hoc Committee on Governance**  
**November 25, 2013**  
**Submitted by Charles Sharpless**

CAS Members present: Charlie Sharpless, Brian Rizzo, Andrea Livi Smith  
COB and COE volunteer members present: Leigh Frackelton, George Meadows  
Not attending: Colin Rafferty

No actions were taken at this meeting, which consisted solely of the following discussions:

*Review of the Presentation by Jim Lollar.* The highlight here was the survey result that a single university-level governing body, senate or council, seems to be generally acceptable to a large majority of faculty. The composition of this body and its underlying committee structure is a matter for debate.

*Next Steps for Governance Reform.* After much discussion, we settled on the idea that a wholesale reform of the governance structure is not necessary. The switch to a single university level governing body could be achieved by keeping the UFC (possibly modifying its composition) and carefully altering the university and college level committee structure and charges. Efforts to move towards a single university level governing body should keep in mind the following:

- College level committees would report directly to the deans of their colleges. Forcing them to report to university level bodies is a duplication of effort. The nature and charges of the college level committees should reflect these considerations.
- There seems to be general faculty agreement that the first priority of governance is to ensure the quality of the curriculum and the availability of resources to support it. Our current curriculum review process does not seem adequate to the task of ensuring administrative commitment to resources when establishing new programs. Our committee believes that this needs to be addressed at the university level, which should have some kind of formal faculty oversight of budgetary needs in cases of new programs or significant program revisions.
- Other priorities of governance should be explicitly discussed by all faculty. When these are firmly agreed upon, the university level committee structure and charges should be aligned to match these priorities.

A summary of the existing governance structure at the university and college levels follows below for reference.

## University Level Governance

### *UFC*

#### *Standing Committees*

- University Academic Affairs
- University Curriculum Committee
- University Faculty Affairs Committee
- University Faculty Appeals and Grievances
- University Faculty Organization Committee
- University General Education
- University Sabbaticals, Fellowships, and Faculty Awards

#### *Advisory Committees*

- Budget Advisory
- Distance and Blended Learning
- First Year Seminar
- Honors Program
- James Farmer Multicultural
- Speaking Intensive
- Student Affairs and Campus Life Advisory
- Teaching Center Advisory
- Writing Intensive

## CAS Governance

### *CAS Senate*

#### *Committees*

- College Academic Resources Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- CAS Faculty Development and Grants Committee
- CAS Promotion and Tenure Committee
- CAS Bachelor of Liberal Studies Committee

*Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee (dissolved, fall 2013)*

## COE Governance

### *Faculty Meetings (monthly)*

#### *Committees*

- Executive Committee
- Faculty Affairs Committee
- Curriculum and Assessment Committee
- Student Affairs Committee
- Promotion and Tenure Committee
- Budget Advisory Committee
- Clinical Collaboration and Partnerships Committee

COB Governance

*Faculty Council*

*Committees*

Academic Policy and Admissions Committee

Curriculum Committee

Outcome Assessment Committee

Promotion and Tenure Committee