Members Present: John Broome, Brooke Di Lauro, Debbie Zies, Jo Tyler, and Lance Gentry
Unable to Attend: Nichole Phillips.

The meeting opened with discussion of minutes. The secretary will continue to forward minutes to entire committee for comments after the meeting. Once the majority has either approved or provided corrections, the secretary will then post the minutes to the UFC website.

The committee reviewed current university committees and most university committee are in good shape. A few committees need replacement members and the expectation is that these members will be determined shortly. Since the previous (August 18) UFOC meeting, two empty positions were filled: John Broome for the COE on UFOC and Dave Henderson for the COB on Sabbaticals, Fellowships and Faculty Awards. Additionally, we are still waiting to hear who will be the COE Curriculum Committee Chair as that person will serve on the University Curriculum Committee and the new Faculty Affairs COB representative due to the need for tenured faculty.

Committee then discussed current CAS Senate proposal to reform University Faculty Governance. Jo Tyler thought that the proposal should spend more time on what the council would do before adjusting the makeup. John Broome recommended that the three at-large members in the proposal be dropped as 1) they do not represent any particular constituents, 2) make the committee too large, and 3) give the committee an even number of people which makes tie votes more likely. Debbie Zies thought that the new proposal was an attempt to resolve some problems that the current, relatively new, UFC has. Professor Zies also pointed out that an at-large member cannot say who they represent in a meeting and cannot even poll them.

Lance Gentry was asked about the perceptions of the College of Business. He stated that the COB had discussed this at their annual advance. In general, the COB thought it was a bit early in the existence of the UFC to make any changes, especially considering all the internal changes CAS has recently made to work more efficiently in a three college system. However, if it would help CAS, the COB is willing to support it with two adjustments. First, like several members of the UFOC, the COB did not see the need for at-large members and second, the COB wanted to include a formal proxy mechanism to help council members who could not make it to a meeting to still vote for their representatives.

The other members thought a formal proxy mechanism would be helpful for both large and small colleges.

Other items in the proposal were discussed. Jo Tyler stated that all the faculty that she had discussed the situation with agreed with the change eliminating deans as ex-officio members. There was no disagreement with this proposal within the UFOC.

Jo Tyler and Debbie Zies also raised the UFC question about requiring the UFC chair and vice-chair to be tenured and wanted any such changes to include a rationale. Why just these members and not all members of the UFC?
The committee as a whole was very optimistic about the possibility of change occurring this year, but wanted more documentation on the entire change. Is the proposal to reform University Faculty Governance simply to change the make-up of the UFC or are other organizational changes envisioned? If the latter, these need to be made explicit and documented.

Chair Brooke Di Lauro will create a memo for the Faculty Council with our feedback on the current proposal. Our next meeting will be scheduled after we hear back from the UFC.

The meeting was then adjourned at 3:50.