

Possible Adjustments to Senate Subcommittees and Off-Campus Programs Committee

Recent discussions with Senate about the desirability of getting increased input on our global programs from Senate has led us to consider reconfiguring two committees: the Academic Resources Subcommittee (ARC) of the Senate and the Off-Campus Programs Committee (OCPC).

Academic Resources Committee

The ARC was created to provide faculty input on technology, library, and classroom resources. In recent years, the Provost's Office has turned to this committee for advice about how to prioritize capital improvement project (CIP) requests from the Academic Division. When the ARC originated, Senate consisted of all currently-serving department chairs, so the ARC was informed by the perspective of faculty with some institutional responsibility for their departments and the broader college.

Returning to a committee structure that provides input from department chairs would strengthen the ARC's ability to advise the Provost's Office on CIP and other financial questions related to instruction and facilities. One way to adjust the structure would be to create a committee of 3-4 department chairs and a representative from the Provost's Office. The committee could be a standing committee appointed by the Faculty Council with chairs serving for one or more years, or something more like an ad hoc committee appointed by the provost. The provost's representative could be the registrar, the dean of curriculum and education effectiveness, the vice provost, or the associate dean of the faculty.

Two primary responsibilities of the committee would be:

1. To review CIP requests submitted to the Provost's Office from academic departments and advise the provost on what requests to prioritize in the college-wide CIP Committee review process.
2. to provide advice at the request of the Provost's Office about priorities regarding requests submitted to the Provost's Office by faculty for instructional tools or equipment, or classroom furnishings and renovations.

The CIP Committee typically meets about four times between November and February, so this newly configured ARC could convene once in the fall to review the range of CIP requests coming from the Academic Division and advise the Provost's Office early in the CIP Committee's process. A faculty member on the ARC could serve as the faculty representative on the CIP Committee. If requests for instructional tools or classroom furnishings come to the Provost's Office outside the CIP process, the ARC could be convened as needed to advise on those requests in cases where funds are limited and choices have to be made among requests.

Academic Senate Global Education Committee

The existing Off-Campus Programs Committee provides governance for off-campus programs analogous to that found in an academic department. The committee gives input on curriculum and makes recommendations to the provost regarding the staffing of programs. We would like to bring the expertise of Academic Senate into this process in order to get a broader faculty perspective on proposed programs, leadership, and curriculum.

The oversight of our global programs is a collaboration among many individuals and groups—faculty program leaders, the director of global education, the provost, the Academic Senate Review Committee of the Senate, the GE Committee, the Off-Campus Programs Committee, and the full faculty. The director of global education, in consultation with the provost, selects program leaders and approves itineraries (with advice from the Global Travel Advisory Group), staffing, and budgets. Program leaders develop courses. New courses are approved by the Academic Senate Review Committee and certified for GE credit by the GE Committee. New semester programs are approved by the full faculty. Traditionally, new Mayterm programs have been approved by the Off-Campus Programs Committee.

We would like to bring some additional expertise of Academic Senate into this process in order to get a broader faculty perspective on proposed programs, leadership, and curriculum. If we reconfigure the Academic Resources Committee as described above, a new subcommittee of the Senate could take over the responsibilities of the Off-Campus Programs Committee.

Here is one possible configuration of responsibilities that includes the new subcommittee:

Provost's Office/Global Education Director

1. Approves the budget, staffing, and itinerary for all global education programs, new and recurring;
2. Conducts reviews and assessments of all global education programs;

Full Faculty

Approves new semester programs.

Full Senate:

1. Makes recommendations to the full faculty regarding approval of new semester programs;
2. Addresses questions brought by the Global Education Subcommittee;
3. Defines the learning goals and outcomes for global education.

Academic Senate Global Education Committee

1. Approves the specific coursework for all semester and Mayterm programs;
2. Approves new or recurring Mayterm programs;

3. Advises the Global Education Office about plans and recruitment for all semester and Mayterm programs;
4. Recommends programs and strategies for promoting global engagement and global learning throughout the curriculum.

Academic Senate Review Committee

Reviews and approves new courses proposed to be offered on global programs.

General Education Committee

Reviews and approves all general education courses offered on global programs to ensure they meet the certification criteria. (Note that any new course should first be approved by the ASRC before being reviewed for GE certification by the GE Committee.)

Proposed membership of the Global Education Subcommittee of the Committee:

Director of Global Education

Assistant Director of Global Education

Registrar?

Three senators