

Annual Report of the
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT
For Presentation to the Faculty Council on
February 26, 2010

Current Members:

Connie Eble, English (2010)
Joseph S. Ferrell, Secretary of the Faculty (ex officio)
Elizabeth Gibson, School of Law (2012)
Clayton Koelb, Germanic Languages (2012)
Michael Lienesch, Political Science (2011)
Melissa Saunders, School of Law (2012)
Sally Stearns, Health Policy (2011)
Vincas Steponaitis, Anthropology (2010), chair

Annual Report prepared by: Vincas Steponaitis, chair. This report covers the period from January 2009 through December 2009.

Committee Charge. Section 4-19 of The Faculty Code of University Government reads as follows:

4-19. Faculty Committee on University Government. (a) The Faculty Committee on University Government consists of seven members appointed by the chancellor. The secretary of the faculty serves as an ex officio member.

(b) The committee is concerned with the continuing development, adaptation, and interpretation of The Faculty Code of University Government. Subject to the powers of the University's Board of Governors and president, and of the Board of Trustees and the chancellor of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, the Code represents legislation enacted by the faculty regarding forms of internal organization and procedures at this institution which are deemed necessary for its fair and effective operation.

(c) The committee periodically reviews the existing Code and solicits suggestions for its improvement. Based on its review, the committee recommends appropriate amendments in the Code for consideration and vote of the General Faculty. As provided under Article I of the Code, the committee considers and reports on other proposals to amend the Code and also periodically makes appropriate adjustments of the elective representatives in the Faculty Council. The committee considers and reports on special questions of University governance which are referred to it by the chancellor or members of the faculty. The committee is especially concerned with maintaining internal forms and procedures of academic administration which reflect principles of democracy and equity, vision and adaptability, and quality and responsibility, toward achieving the intellectual aims of the University.

Report of Activities.

Resolutions Presented and Adopted. None.

Ongoing. Over the past year the Committee considered possible amendments to Article 12 of the

Faculty Code in response to concerns about the size and method of appointment of the Administrative Board of the Library. The Committee also discussed proposals to give retired UNC faculty opportunities for greater involvement in faculty governance.

New Business.

Resolutions Presented. The committee presents today the following resolution:

Resolution 2010-1. On Amending the Faculty Code of University Government to Change the Composition of the Administrative Board of the Library.

Appendix 1

Report of the Committee on University Government on Resolution 2010-1.

In 2002, faculty chair Susan Estroff asked the Committee on University Government to conduct a comprehensive review of the Faculty Code, with the goals of improving its internal consistency and updating its provisions to better reflect current practices. From 2003 through 2007, the Committee carried out this charge and proposed a series of amendments that were passed by Faculty Council. During the course of this review, we noted that the Administrative Board of the Library (ABL) was larger by far than any other standing faculty committee, with a much more complex electoral and appointment process than usual. This large size and complex constitution creates difficulties for staffing the ABL, not to mention the logistical difficulties in finding times to meet. Because of the importance of this committee, we were reluctant to propose changes in its composition without first gathering additional information and consulting broadly with the faculty involved. So we decided to set aside this issue and to return to it after the main amendments were passed.

During calendar 2009, the Committee consulted with University Librarian Sarah Michalak, former University Librarian Joe Hewitt, and the current ABL (chaired by Reid Barbour). We also received some input from former members of ABL. All agreed that the ABL could operate effectively with a smaller size, although not everyone agreed on the precise form that a “streamlined” ABL should take. That said, the various suggestions were close enough that our Committee was able to distill them into the proposed amendment presented with this report.

Essentially, the proposed amendment cuts the size of ABL from 22 to 14 members, while maintaining a mix of elected and appointed slots that is similar to the current configuration. The number of electoral divisions is reduced from five to three, by consolidating the currently separate divisions of Humanities and Fine Arts in the College, and by shifting the professional schools’ representation from elected to appointed status. In the proposed configuration, the number of representatives in most categories decreases. Proportionally, it slightly increases the representation from the College in comparison to Health Affairs and the professional schools, but at the same time increases representation from “at large” faculty slots which could be used to remedy any perceived gaps. We also note that Health Affairs and most of the professional

schools have their own libraries which do not fall under the purview of ABL. Thus, the slightly reduced representation from these constituencies on ABL does not seem inappropriate.

In their deliberations, the current ABL proposed that the number of student representatives be increased to four, on a board with a total membership of 16. While our Committee recognizes the importance of having student representation on ABL (as did everyone with whom we consulted), our proposal cuts the number of student members from the three to two. This configuration keeps the proportional representation of students the same as now. We note that there currently exists a Student Library Advisory Board (SLAB), with 10 or more student members, whose charge is to advise the University Librarian on student needs and concerns (see <http://www.lib.unc.edu/about/slab.html>). In light of this, our Committee saw no need to increase the number of students on ABL. Indeed, we strongly suggest that the students appointed to ABL in the future overlap with those who serve on SLAB, so they can also serve as liaisons between the two committees.

After the present resolution was drafted (and as this report was being written), the Committee learned of an imminent change in the Library's administrative structure, in which the Health Sciences Library will soon report directly to the University Librarian rather than the Provost. The implications of this change for the ABL are still unclear. In other words, we still do not know whether the administrative boards of the University Library and Health Sciences Library will ultimately be merged. Despite the uncertainty, the Committee recommends that the present resolution be enacted. If the boards remain separate, then the rationale for this resolution remains unchanged. If the boards eventually merge, then this will require another change in the Code, which in turn will require further consultation and deliberation. Nothing in the present resolution precludes or complicates such future changes if needed.

Attached are two documents: (1) a markup copy of Section 12-1, showing the proposed changes to the present Code presented in the form of a resolution; and (2) a clean copy, presenting the same section as it would read if revised.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee on University Government

Resolution 2010-1. On Amending the Faculty Code of University Government to Change the Composition of the Administrative Board of the Library.

The General Faculty enacts:

Section 12-1 of the Faculty Code of University Government is amended as follows:

“§ 12-1. Administrative Board of the Library; composition.

“(a) There is an Administrative Board of the Library composed of ~~twenty-two~~ fourteen members. ~~Fourteen~~ Seven members are elected by and from the following electoral divisions:

- ~~1. The Division of Fine Arts of the College of Arts and Sciences — one member.~~
- ~~2~~ 1. The Divisions of the Humanities and Fine Arts of the College of Arts and Sciences — ~~three~~ two members.
- ~~3~~ 2. The Division of the Social Sciences of the College of Arts and Sciences — ~~three~~ two members.
- ~~4~~ 3. The Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics of the College of Arts and Sciences — ~~three~~ two members.
- ~~5. The School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Kenan-Flagler Business School, the School of Education, the School of Law, the School of Information and Library Science, the School of Social Work, and the School of Government — three members.~~
- ~~6~~ 4. The Academic Affairs Libraries — one member.

“(b) The chair of the faculty appoints ~~seven~~ six members of the Administrative Board of the Library, as follows:

1. One member from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Kenan-Flagler Business School, the School of Education, the School of Law, the School of Information and Library Science, the School of Social Work, and the School of Government.
- ~~1~~ 2. ~~two~~ One members from the Division of Health Affairs.
- ~~2~~ 3. ~~Two~~ members from the faculty at large.
- ~~3~~ 4. ~~One~~ undergraduate student, on recommendation of the president of the student body.
- ~~4~~ 5. ~~two~~ One graduate students, on recommendation of the president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.

“(c) The University librarian is a member ex officio.”

§ 12-1. Administrative Board of the Library; composition.

[as amended by Resolution 2010-1]

(a) There is an Administrative Board of the Library composed of fourteen members. Seven members are elected by and from the following electoral divisions:

1. The Divisions of the Humanities and Fine Arts of the College of Arts and Sciences — two members.
2. The Division of the Social Sciences of the College of Arts and Sciences — two members.
3. The Division of Natural Sciences and Mathematics of the College of Arts and Sciences — two members.
4. The Academic Affairs Libraries — one member.

(b) The chair of the faculty appoints six members of the Administrative Board of the Library, as follows:

1. One member from the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the Kenan-Flagler Business School, the School of Education, the School of Law, the School of Information and Library Science, the School of Social Work, and the School of Government.
2. One member from the Division of Health Affairs.
3. Two members from the faculty at large.
4. One undergraduate student, on recommendation of the president of the student body.
5. One graduate student, on recommendation of the president of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation.

(c) The University librarian is a member ex officio.