Committee Members: Lisa Billingham, Chair (CVPA), Ginny Blair (CHSS), Carol Cleaveland (CHHS), Rebecca Jones (COS) and Jenice View (CEHD)

Specific Issues Addressed by Organization & Operations 2016-17

The O&O Committee began the 2016 semester with research into several topics including the design for a charge for a Research Advisory Committee, a committee to Develop a Conflict of Interest Policy and specifics regarding the follow up on the directive to form a new Multilingual Academic Support Committee (December meeting) that had been proposed in spring 2017. After research and conferral with faculty it was proposed (and passed December 7, 2016).

Research Advisory Committee:
“The committee that was approved consists of seven tenure-line (tenured, tenure-track) faculty from at least five different schools/colleges. At least TWO faculty must be at the Associate Professor level. At least TWO faculty must be at the Full Professor level (includes University Professors and Robinson Professors. At least one of the committee members must be a faculty senator.” (December 7, 2016 senate minutes).

Multilingual Academic Support Committee:
Charge:
The committee will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of efforts to support multilingual students. This will include offering input on the types of direct student resources (e.g., classes and tutoring services) needed for students with varying language (writing, speaking, listening, and reading) abilities, the types of faculty development support: needed to enhance the teaching of linguistically diverse students across the curriculum, and the types of administrative support needed to enable key programs to lead specialized curriculum and faculty development efforts.

Composition:
The Committee will include one representative from each of the following areas: Writing Center, Center for Teaching and Faculty Excellence, Writing Across the Curriculum Committee, Libraries, Composition/English Courses Faculty, Basic Communication Courses, INTO Mason Academic Advising and Transitions Center, and University Life. In addition, there will be three elected faculty representatives (including one faculty senator), from at least two separate colleges/schools, each serving staggered 2-year terms. The Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education will serve as a non-voting, ex-officio member of the committee.

Allotment of Senate seats to academic units for 2017-2018:

Based on instructional FTE data from Instructional Research and Reporting, the Volgeneau School of Engineering gained one seat for 2016-2017. A vote was held at the March meeting
to allow for a break in our charter to allow for 51 Faculty Senate seats for the 2017-2018 academic year due to the both the College of Education and Human Development and the Schar School of Policy and Government each earned a half seat. Details of the vote and acceptance of the allocations are included in the minutes of the March 1, 2017 Senate meeting. The committee will work in the 2017-2018 year to examine the Senate Charter to establish policy regarding tie seat assignments to prevent future issues regarding this issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Billingham