Committee Members: Lisa Billingham, Chair (CVPA), Ginny Blair (CHSS), Carol Cleaveland (CHHS), and Jenice View (CEHD). (Jesse Guessford (CVPA) was a member for 2017 only due to a change in his position at the University.

Specific Issues Addressed by Organization & Operations 2017-18

The O&O Committee began this 2017 fall semester with the task of editioning the Senate Bylaws. The committee spent the majority of the fall semester working on this initiative. A first read of changes was made in the December 6, 2017 meeting, with final approval of the Senate Bylaws during the February 7, 2018 meeting. Changes to the Bylaws include a change to Sergeant(s)-at-Arms and redefining the first meeting of the academic year without the restriction to September as it had previously been slated. A discussion began regarding the ability for Faculty Senators and University Standing Committees to meet electronically. The term of the Faculty Senate chair was redefined to begin the day following Commencement. The complete revisions to the Bylaws can be seen in both the January and February 2018 minutes on the Senate website.

Faculty Support Liaison Pilot Program (Proposal Pending approval at the April 2018 meeting)

Representatives Cleaveland and Billingham worked with Senior Vice President J.J. Davis, Linda Harber and a committee representing many offices across the University to create and train a team of faculty for support to faculty to may be involved in an investigation. This team of faculty will be trained in the processes of how to address work-related issues at the University. This new program will provide representative faculty from a variety of colleges to assist fellow faculty members that may want support and sounding board. The parameters of this program will be an attachment to the April 25, 2018 meeting. Information regarding the proposed appointment and eligibility of this program is cited from the proposal below. We have proposed that training of the Faculty Support Liaisons occur in August 2018 in order to have support for faculty in the fall of 2018.

Appointment:

Liaisons will represent a variety of academic units and should be a diverse representation of the faculty. One and two academic year (renewable) appointments are recommended. Overlap of individuals serving in the roles will be critical to promote cross-training and provide continuity of knowledge management and service.
In recognition of the importance of the work and the time commitment, a $2,000 yearly stipend or a course release will be offered to faculty who undertake these roles.

Eligibility:

Tenured faculty (for the purposes of this pilot program) are eligible to serve in the Faculty Support Liaison role. Faculty will submit relevant materials to be considered for the role. Materials will be evaluated based on a number of factors, such as experience in and familiarity with various regulations, policies, procedures and other aspects of the University."

The Allocation of Faculty Senators for 2018-19 was calculated and announced at the March 7, 2018 Meeting. 50 senators have been assigned and can be found in Attachment B of the minutes. The only change of allocation was CHSS, with 14 seats moving to 13, per our bylaws.

Feedback Regarding Provost/President Involvement
The Organizations and Operations Committee has only had one related task to the Administration. In most cases, this committee creates new committees that would have direct contact with the offices of the Provost/President. The Organizations and Operations Committee was tasked with the creation of the Faculty Liaison Program, in tandem with JJ Davis and Linda They were very supportive of this new Pilot Training Program. They were very quick to reply to the requests of our committee and were very helpful in connecting us to the appropriate offices for approval. We will propose this Pilot Program in the April 25, 2018 Senate Meeting.

The Organizations and Operations Committee will continue in the 2018-19 academic year to report on the Faculty Support Liaison Pilot Program should it be approved in the April meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Billingham