



Governance and Bylaws Task Force Minutes

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

10-11 AM 303 C DeVos

PRESENT: David Bair (LEFT), Trenton Beamon (CECIUAC), Rita Cooper (CECI Dean's Office), Jason Cronkrite (OCA), Sean Lancaster (LEFT), Jamie Langlois (SSW), Jina Lee (SCCJLS), Huafang Li (SPNHTM), Clayton Pelon (CEP), Sally Pelon (SSW), Greg Warsen (ELC), Mark Hoffman (CECI Dean's Office), Associate Dean, Ellen Schiller (T&L)

ABSENT: Patty Janes (SPNHTM)

AGENDA (master agenda found below)

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Reviewed and approved the minutes.
2. Jamie shared the [timeline](#) she developed from the input in the previous meeting. She asked for input or concerns. None was given. The timeline appeared to be in sync with the agreed upon expectations.
3. Mark lead a discussion on consensus decision making. There are four voting categories, 1) support, 2) support with reservations, 3) disagree but support, 4) opposed. He explained that the goal is to move everyone to support if possible by revisiting the concerns. After consideration and potential changes, if there is only one hold out (opposed) with no path forward, the chairs can adopt the change.
4. Jamie and Sean explained the summary of the Jamboards. They found competing sentiments. They posed a statement and asked small groups to discuss it. The statement is: We should adopt a structure that gives the majority of power/decisions to the unit/unit committees where college governance only oversees big issues and is empowered with a strong college voice to inform the dean.
5. Small groups reported:
 - a. The term “big issues” seemed vague.
 - b. What about collaboration, conflict, and decisions that cross units. For example: Collaboration on courses. Ellen pointed out some units are very intertwined. For example: teaching across programs.
 - c. A group felt that the CAC model allowed for a strong unit voice and connection to the dean in an advisory capacity. However, not in a decision-making capacity.
 - d. Three groups were supportive of the concept of a decentralized structure.

- e. It was suggested that college level committees only be used to check processes and hold unit committees to their agreed upon structure.
 - f. College committee would ideally be a steward of the mission and vision of the college but loose on details-to let units decide.
 - g. There is a worry about unit-only committees and simultaneously a worry about being too stretched (more committees where people aren't engaged) with few resources (e.g. time, inexperienced staff)
 - h. Remembering that what might be important at the unit level, might not be important at the college level.
 - i. A final group noted they desired an executive committee for the whole who would also create a college wide assembly 3 times a year. These efforts could be focused on mission, vision, and strategic planning. But this group could also help facilitate a sense of community in CECI and help break down barriers between units.
6. A consensus vote was taken. Results were not shared in the meeting. Results are:
Support (6)
Support with Reservations (5) with one person asking for "further definition and criteria" and another noting that "more discussion would have provided needed clarity."
7. Jamie & Sean said they would get together and review the vote and share next steps/committee assignments by October 13th. Committees are asked to meet remotely on October 20th.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

The next meeting will be remote (Zoom) in small subcommittees at 10am on October 20th.

Agenda CECI Governance and Bylaws: October 6th: DeVos 303 C: 10am -11am

Review & approve minutes

Review [timeline](#)

Discuss consensus decision making

Determine Guiding Star:

- Small Groups: Discuss adopting a structure that gives the majority of power/decisions to the units/unit committees where college governance only oversees big issues and is empowered with a strong college voice to inform the dean.
- Large Group: Share thoughts
- Consensus vote

Determine Decisions:

- ~~Small Group: Brainstorm decisions that need to be made at the college level & those that should be made at the unit level.~~
- ~~Large Group: Share thoughts~~
- ~~Consensus vote~~

Stakeholders (time permitting):

- ~~Discuss who are the stakeholders that college decisions will impact.~~

Next Steps

- Sub-Committee Assignments: Given October 13th
- Sub-Committees Meet via Zoom on October 20th at 10am to discuss their work.