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Membership minutes 10/03/2011

Membership Committee

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Membership Committee Minutes for Mon. Oct. 3, 2011

Present: D. Roberts, J. Dabbs, T. Goodnough, B. Tipcke, J. Sperr, Z. Forde

1. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved (6-0).
2. Vote counting at Campus Assembly meeting of Sept. 20 regarding the P & A position for Consultative Committee:
DR reviewed the process used to count ballots, and the question that arose when the vote came out as 9-6-6. Given our interpretation of instant run-off voting, and as approved by the assembly Parliamentarian (Pete Wyckoff), the second-place votes given to both second-place finishers were re-distributed. There was no difference in that result, and Troy Goodnough, who had received the most initial votes, was still the decisive winner.
The Membership Committee voted in favor (6-0) of following this procedure in the future in the event of a tie for second place.
*However, following the meeting DR reviewed the constitution by-laws, and found that the procedure we followed (re-distributing second-place votes) was unnecessary.
The by-laws state that in the case of ties: "If there is no such candidate [majority winner], then the candidate or candidates with the fewest first place votes are removed from contention and their ballots are distributed to the remaining candidates according to second choices."
As DR noted in his follow-up email: "So in our instance, Troy should have been declared the winner immediately, without any further distribution according to second choices. This procedure is somewhat against the philosophy of instant run-off voting, but we are certainly required to follow it."
3. ASLC Sci faculty replacement, fall semester: Jong-Min Kim was unanimously recommended.
4. AFRC staffing: Membership Committee recommends names for the 2 faculty/P& A positions to J. Johnson. DR noted that in the past, usually one position has gone to a faculty member, and especially one who is still relatively new to UMM to give that individual greater insight to the myriad campus opportunities to students, and the other position to a P & A staff person. Recommendations to J. Johnson for the faculty position are:
 - 1) Dan Demetriou
 - 2) Elena Machkasova as alternate.For the P & A position:
 - 1) Lori Kurpiers (who would be returning, having served 1 yr already)
 - 2) Sue Lor as alternate.[Votes were unanimous in favor of all candidates]

*As a side note, TG suggested that the Membership Committee come up with some kind of database or other mechanism for more easily tracking faculty/staff involvement on campus committees and thus more readily be able to identify individuals for positions that need to be filled.
5. Discussion of faculty seated as voting members of more than one committee: DR reviewed the current situation in which 3 Division Chairs, who are also serving on all-U committees, are voting members of more than one of the campus core committees, which is prohibited by the new

constitution. DR has talked to two of the Division Chairs regarding the situation, and in the interim they are willing to not vote on committees other than Curriculum Committee. We discussed the need for a change in the by-law to allow for more flexibility if there are unusual circumstances such as this in the future. It was recommended that this issue be brought up to Campus Assembly for their information, but to wait on proposing a by-law change until a more comprehensive by-law review was instituted.

6. [added to the agenda] The freshmen slate brought forward by MCSA for Campus Assembly committee positions was approved (6-0). New members recommended were: Allison Wolf on Scholastic; Pengxue Thao on Student Affairs; Natasha Myhal on ASLC; and Jordan Wentz on Planning.

*Also, we will need to hold an election at the next CA meeting for the open faculty slot on the Consultative Committee vacated by Sarah Buchanan (pending DR's confirmation of this decision).

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Julia Dabbs.