
The Nominations Committee prepares the slate of nominations for the various standing committees of the University. The committee begins its work with the Faculty-Committee Preference List filled out by faculty indicating which committees each faculty member is willing to serve on. Committee members sometimes have to search out faculty to serve when an insufficient number of eligible faculty have volunteered their services for a particular committee.

During the 1999-2000 Academic Year the committee met twice, on February 16, 2000 to prepare the list for the elected offices and again on April 26, 2000 to prepare the list for the appointed offices.

This year it was noted that only 133 faculty (out of 730) completed and returned the Faculty-Committee Preference List. In 1995 that number was of completed returns was 179 and the number has been in a slow decline in the intervening years. It should also noted that the ballot count this spring showed only 226 faculty chose to vote, yielding a voting rate of about 33%.

In 1995 the annual report to the senate ended with “Most significant to the Nominations Committee, however, is the fact that the study shows that only about one faculty member in five chooses to serve the campus in its all-university committee work.” Unfortunately, the number has been reduced to one in six.

The committee is aware that junior faculty are sometimes advised to avoid campus committees and concentrate on their research. Perhaps divisional committees could stress the importance of service (including campus governance) as a responsibility of our faculty. Perhaps administration could award points for committee service and see to it that those points result in rewards, either monetary or other, for participants.

Professor James Coggins
Professor Donald Green
Professor Mark Harris
Professor Glen Jeansonne
Professor Leonard Levine, chair
Professor Ellen Murphy
Professor Linda Post
Professor Betty Ritchie

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