2005-2006 Annual Report  
Faculty Senate Rules Committee  

Members:  
Vincent Adesso  
Kathryn Dindia  
Marija Gajdardziska-Josifovska  
Kristie Hamilton  
Tomas Lipinski, Chair  
Winston Van Horne  
Randall J. Ryder  

Charter Functions:  

   a. Sets the schedule and prepared calendars for Senate and University Faculty meetings.  
   b. Recommends procedures to ensure that individual Senators and Faculty members-at-large may initiate items for deliberation by the Senate and/or Faculty in conjunction with or independent of proposals from faculty standing committees or special committees.  
   c. Resolves questions of committee jurisdiction.  
   d. Coordinates committee relationships with the Senate.  
   e. Designates Senators to serve in a liaison capacity with those faculty standing committees which do not have a Senator as a member  

The Senate Rules Committee met, September 1, October 6, November 3 and 21 of 2005 and January 5, February 2, March 2 and 30, and May 4 of 2006.  

Committee of Whole discussions were planned and held during various Faculty Senate meetings during the 05-06 academic year on the following topics: Early Warning System, IRB issues and reorganization, and reorganization of divisional committee structure and function.  

As part of items of business, two presentations on the RGI by Abbas Ourmazd were made on November 17, 2005 and May 16, 2006.  

The Rules Committee recommended more effective scheduling of Senate meetings. First, the January meeting, in 2006 and in future years should occur after classes have resumed and not during the UWinteriM session. Rationale: This will allow more faculty, students and staff (who may be absent due to the inter-semester break) to be present. Second regarding the May meetings, the third Thursday of the month (per UWM P&P) should remain the scheduled meeting with the Tuesday immediately prior designated as the "if needed" date. Rationale: This is consistent with UWM P&P regarding scheduling of Senate meetings and will allow faculty to rely on Thursdays as the primary meeting day for the Senate throughout the academic year, with Tuesday date in May being the optional day.
The Rules committee in consultation with the Secretary of the University recommended the use of technology to streamline the processes and procedures of the Faculty Senate: to require electronic versions of agenda items for consideration by the Rules Committee, to conduct faculty committee elections by electronic ballot, and distribute the Agenda for the Faculty Senate in electronic form.