

FAS Senate Committees for 2015/16

Committee on Elections and Nominations

Chair: Vesla Weaver, Political Science

Chris Kraus, Classics

Bill Nordhaus, Economics

Description:

This committee will oversee the annual elections of the senate AND THE INTERNAL ELECTION OF ITS LEADERSHIP, as well as periodically make recommendations to the FASS that it approve changes to the divisional representation and size of the body AND ELECTION PROCEDURES, if required. After the initial term of the FASS, the expectation is that members of this committee be in their final term, to avoid any possible conflict of interest.” The committee also keeps track of senators’ attendance, leave schedules, and other electoral concerns. THIS COMMITTEE, WHEN APPROPRIATE, CAN FORM AN EXTERNAL COMMITTEE THAT CAN OVERSEE THE COUNTING OF BALLOTS. This committee combines the functions of two separate committees (“elections” and “nominations”) outlined in the implementation report. Further details of the committee processes and electoral rules are available in that report.

* Note for 2015--2016: Due to its inaugural status, the Senate will not conduct full elections in 2016. The bulk of this committee’s work in 2015-2016 will entail establishing long-term election procedures, RUNNING THE ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, and responding to issues involving attendance and related electoral issues.

Committee on Yale Committees

Chair: Mark Mooseker, Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology; School of Medicine

Ruth Koizim, French

Reina Maruyama, Physics

Ian Shapiro, Political Science

Katie Trumpener, English

Committee on Yale College Expansion

Chair: Beverly Gage, History

John Harris, Physics

Ruth Koizim, French

Kathryn Lofton, Religious Studies

Charles Schmuttenmaer, Chemistry

Vesla Weaver, Political Science

In 2017, the Yale College student population is scheduled to begin expanding by approximately 15 percent, with the opening of two new residential colleges. This committee will examine the potential impact of this change on classroom teaching, faculty workloads, Teaching Fellow allocation, and other issues of concern to FAS faculty. It will work closely with the Yale College Dean’s office and other administrators to draw upon the considerable institutional research that

has already been devoted to such questions. The committee's intent is not to duplicate such research, but to review pending plans and changes on behalf of the FAS faculty, and to make recommendations with faculty priorities and educational best practices in mind.

Committee on Budget and Finance

Chair: William Nordhaus, Economics

Jill Campbell, English

John Geanakoplos, Economics

Yair Minsky, Mathematics

Ian Shapiro, Political Science

Karen Wynn, Psychology

This committee will analyze the trends and structure of the FAS budget as well as its context in the larger university operating and capital budgets and finances. Among topics that the committee may examine are the structure of the new FAS budgeting system, the economic status of the faculty, the disposition of endowment spending, trends in spending in the FAS and other units in the university, and the sources and uses of capital spending. It is expected that the committee will meet with and base its work on exchanges with the offices of the FAS Dean, the Provost, the Vice President for Finance and Budget, and the Corporation Committee on Budget and Finance. The committee will also meet with the Committee on the Economic Status of the Faculty to learn of that committee's current and recent activities and findings as well as the disposition of those findings.

Sub-Committee: Committee on FAS Governance

Chair: Ian Shapiro, Political Science

Beverly Gage, History

William Nordhaus, Economics

Ramamurti Shankar, Physics

The Committee on FAS Governance charged to evaluate the recent changes in the governance of the university with particular attention to their impact on the FAS. The sub-committee should explore how arts and sciences are managed and financed at other major research universities in order to inform the FASS about alternative organizational structures and budget processes. The committee should explore how well the changes in recent years are serving the health and excellence of the FAS and recommend changes if any are deemed warranted.

Peer Advisory Committee

Chair: Jill Campbell, English

Emily Greenwood, Classics

Dave Bercovici, Geology & Geophysics

Shiri Goren, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Douglas Rogers, Anthropology

Committee on Faculty Advancement

Chair: Dave Bercovici, Geology & Geophysics

John Geanakoplos, Economics
Shiri Goren, Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations
Matthew Jacobson, History; African American Studies
Yair Minsky, Mathematics
Bill Rankin, History
Katie Trumpener, English
Karen Wynn, Psychology

Committee on Diversity and Inclusivity

Emily Greenwood, Chair, Classics
Beverly Gage, History
John Harris, Physics
Matthew Jacobson, History; African American Studies
Reina Maruyama, Physics
Douglas Rogers, Anthropology
Charles Schmuttenmaer, Chemistry
Vesla Weaver, Political Science

At the November 19th and December 17th meetings of the Faculty Senate in 2015, senators expressed broad support for Senate involvement in tackling challenges to diversity and inclusion in FAS. Senators noted that successive initiatives to diversify the faculty and academic culture at Yale have gained ground and then floundered, and advocated an informed and deliberate response to these challenges so as to avoid duplicating past efforts. This ad hoc committee will consult widely to produce a report on the state of inclusion and diversity in FAS, as well as a set of detailed recommendations for improvement.

The committee will aim to complete its work by the end of Spring 2016 and to present a final report to the Senate in May (with a draft report and recommendations to be presented in April).