Meeting Minutes  
Faculty Senate Rules Committee  
December 2, 2011, 1:00 p.m., 2237 TLC

Members Present:  
Margaret Mitchell, Chair  
Michael Horvath, John Ponder, Lisa Connell, Shelly Crager, Georgina DeWeese, Ron Best, Linda Haynes, Jane Simpson, Ravic Ringlaben, Andrea Stanfield  

Margaret Mitchell brought the meeting to order.

1. **Reviewed and Approved October 7, 2011 and October 28, 2011 meeting minutes**  

2. **Policies and Procedures Manual Status update**  
   a. Theresa Ock updated Policy and Procedure manual  
   b. M. Mitchell to follow up in regards to senate homepage to make it more accessible.

3. **SACS Principles**  
   a. Principles 1 & 2 will be submitted to the senate  
   b. New 3.75: Reviewed by committee as complete, but page numbers and citations need to be verified, Jane Simpson to verify citations.

4. **Graduate Programs Committee**  
   a. Chris Huff assigned the Rules Committee to plan a process to select student representatives on the Graduate Program Committee.  
   b. Shelly Crager to resend proposal for student selection to be discussed at the next meeting.

5. **Feedback/Endorsement of Online Degrees Task Force white paper:**  
   Discussion of the need to pursue online education:  
   i. Synchronous versus asynchronous: Online education is not a means to save costs.  
   ii. Concerns were expressed about the quality of online education when compared to traditional classroom education.  
   iii. Concerns expressed about resources available to assist with online education  
   iv. Concerns expressed about faculty being “thrown” into online courses with little or no education  
   v. Concerns expressed that student needs are not as evident when compared to traditional classroom education  
   vi. Overall, the Rules Committee support endorsement of the Online Degrees Task Force white paper.
6. New Business:
   a. Senate absentee Policy:
      The Rules Committee is charged to design a policy that addresses senator
      absence; i.e., should the senator get credit for being a senator if not attending the
      meetings.
      The Rules Committee submitted Protocols of the Senate on 4/22/2011 that
      included a policy on senator absenteeism.
      Recommendation: As a recommendation already exists in the Protocols of the
      Senate, absenteeism should be managed by the electing body.
   b. John Ponder will assume chair responsibilities beginning January 13, 2012
   c.
7. Meeting adjourned

Next Meeting
The next meeting is scheduled for January 13, 2012

Minutes prepared by Shelly Crager