

**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