

Faculty Guide and Bylaws Committee Report
December 17, 2021

The Faculty Guide Committee met on December 8th and reviewed its ongoing work. Two items had been presented to the Senate for first readings at the November meeting: the draft revisions to article 11 and the proposed new language creating a post-doctoral position. In both cases, questions were raised but no changes were approved by Senate, making both measures eligible for second readings.

The Committee considered questions regarding language on the participation of deans in Faculty Assemblies in draft article 11.2.e. The Committee members felt strongly that such participation is necessary and desirable, and that the language offered adequate protections against potential abuses. Therefore, the Committee stands by the original draft and offers it to the Senate for a second reading.

After the Nov. meeting, the committee chairs heard from several colleagues in the sciences expressing concern about the proposed post-doctoral position. There appear to be complexities regarding relations with funding agencies and possible unintended consequences of including post-docs in the Faculty Guide. The Committee is therefore withdrawing the language on the Post-Doctoral Fellows. We will consult with colleagues in the sciences and appropriate administrators in order to gain a better understanding of current practices and on the basis of these meetings we will decide whether and in what form the draft language should be resubmitted to the Senate.

The Committee is considering proposed changes to article 3 regarding the hiring of contract faculty and lecturers. We hope to bring this to the Senate in January or February. We also anticipate bringing draft revisions to article 12 to the body for a first reading in January.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathaniel Knight and Judith Lothian
Faculty Guide and Bylaws Committee co-chairs.