

MEMO

To: Jennifer Bird-Pollan Senate Council Chair
From: Christopher A. Pool, Chair, Senate Academic Facilities Committee
Date: November 6, 2019
Re: Committee scope and responsibilities

I write to convey the recommendation of the Senate Academic Facilities Committee regarding its scope and responsibilities as laid out in its charter (Senate Rule 1.4.2.3). It is the consensus of the SAFC that the scope described in the senate rule is overly broad, and that it overlaps unproductively with other senate committees. Moreover, the committee's responsibilities are spelled out accurately in the part of the rule that lists how the SAFC shall act. The committee recommends striking the second sentence of Senate Rule 1.4.2.3, which reads, "In this regard, it shall be concerned about such matters as classrooms, buildings and grounds, shops and other such real property, audio-visual and television equipment, computers, duplication and printing facilities, vehicle pools, and scientific and musical instruments."

Current wording, with recommended deletion struck out:

Charter: Senate Rules 1.4.2.3

The Senate's Academic Facilities Committee (SAFC) is charged with the responsibility of providing information and recommendations to the Senate about the alteration, construction, and allocation of all property and physical facilities that may affect the educational objectives of the University. ~~In this regard, it shall be concerned about such matters as classrooms, buildings and grounds, shops and other such real property, audio-visual and television equipment, computers, duplication and printing facilities, vehicle pools, and scientific and musical instruments.~~ The SAFC shall act in these ways:

1. Serve the administration as a source of faculty information and opinion about the need, design, and priority and construction or renovation projects.
2. Inform the Senate at least annually about problems relating to the alteration, construction, or allocation of academic facilities and about future plans and priorities for them. Whenever necessary, the SAFC may initiate action by preparing a recommendation to the administration, which should be routed through the Senate Council for Senate approval.
3. Maintain communication with the appropriate administrators about the current status and utilization of academic facilities. [US: 10/12/81]
4. Study the use, renovation, and need for space (including classrooms) and equipment relevant to academic programs and functions. [US: 3/12/84]

Recommended Revised wording:

Charter: Senate Rules 1.4.2.3

The Senate's Academic Facilities Committee (SAFC) is charged with the responsibility of providing information and recommendations to the Senate about the alteration, construction, and allocation of all property and physical facilities that may affect the educational objectives of the University. The SAFC shall act in these ways:

1. Serve the administration as a source of faculty information and opinion about the need, design, and priority and construction or renovation projects.
2. Inform the Senate at least annually about problems relating to the alteration, construction, or allocation of academic facilities and about future plans and priorities for them. Whenever necessary, the SAFC may initiate action by preparing a recommendation to the administration, which should be routed through the Senate Council for Senate approval.
3. Maintain communication with the appropriate administrators about the current status and utilization of academic facilities. [US: 10/12/81]
4. Study the use, renovation, and need for space (including classrooms) and equipment relevant to academic programs and functions. [US: 3/12/84]

Sincerely,



Christopher A. Pool
Chair, Senate Academic Facilities Committee