

Minutes
Faculty Senate Committee on University Planning
October 19, 2023, 3:30 pm
Via Zoom

Present: Barbara Anderson, Cassie Jones, Elizabeth Kiss, Kimberly Kramer, Tom Misilo

1. Called to Order at 3:30 pm
2. The intent of this meeting was to continue discussion of [Appendix N](#) of the *University Handbook*.
3. Co-Chair Cassie Jones introduced the roles of FSCOUP and Faculty Senate in cases where Appendix N is followed. Appendix N guidelines are followed by university administrators for reorganization of academic units when circumstances require combining, realigning, reducing, or other reorganizing of university units. There are additional policies in the University Handbook that apply when changes are based on financial exigency or program discontinuance.
4. The following is a paraphrase of Appendix N: Appendix N requires the administrator(s) responsible for the reorganization to consult with the College Committee on Planning (CCOP) and provide information to the affected persons/faculty and staff and the CCOP. Administrators are expected to provide affected persons and CCOP reasons for the reorganization, provide further explanation, discuss concerns, and use additional information that might lead to revisions in the planned reorganization. CCOP is required to prepare a statement that accompanies the submission of the proposal to the central administration.

There is an appeals process identified, but not defined in Appendix N.

If reorganization involves changes in academic programs or degrees, the changes are subject to current policy requiring approval by the Faculty Senate.

FSCOUP is invited to send an observer to the proceedings by the responsible administrator(s) when the reorganization involves more than one college or unit.

Appendix N defines academic units as referring to the academic colleges, Hale Library, and Kansas State University Research and Extension Services, and the various subunits within.

5. Discussion was wide ranging and surfaced diverse perspectives among members of FSCOUP who attended the meeting. Co-Chair Cassie Jones suggested the reorganization currently underway with the move of the Interior Design program from the College of Health and Human Sciences to the College of Architecture, Planning and Design could serve as a case study of a reorganization between two colleges that starts at the Provost or Dean level rather than voluntarily at the Program level.

We think the last time a program/unit moved from one college to another was a decade ago when Kinesiology moved from Arts and Sciences to Health and Human Sciences (former Human Ecology) and that was voluntary. Anderson was the FSCOUP observer at the HE CCOP meeting.

Discussion of Appendix N ambiguity included a focus on the challenge of defining a sequential process and knowing when, or which step in the process, would bring CCOP/FSCOUP into the process. We discussed the role of Faculty Senate being most important when reorganization decisions are made top down, rather than bottom up. We discussed the need for the Faculty Senate role to be protection of Faculty/PSS from poorly planned or ill-conceived decisions. We discussed Faculty Senate's role in leveling the playing field for those less powerful in the discussion or decision-making regarding reorganization. At the same time, we did not want to limit the ability of programs, colleges, and the university to explore potential reorganization opportunities by mandating engagement of CCOPs and FSCOUP observers during the exploration phase of reorganization initiatives.

There was not a quorum present. No action was taken.

Adjourned at 5:00 pm