

Proposal to Change the Faculty Senate Charter

Proposed Change 1 on p. 8 of the Senate Charter (see strikethrough)

V. The Organization of the Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate shall act on all proposals received either from its committees or from its members. In addition, the Faculty Senate shall hear and rule on any appeal from a college curriculum committee, and shall forward its recommendation, along with the relevant materials to the Provost.

The Faculty Senate shall also act through its committees, receiving for information reports of committee actions. However, the Faculty Senate may vote to review a committee action. The committee shall be informed of the review, and the matter shall be placed on the agenda of the next Faculty Senate meeting. The Faculty Senate shall forward its recommendation to the Provost.

A. Standing Committees of the Faculty Senate

The standing committees of the Faculty Senate are as follows: The Executive Committee, the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, ~~the Colonnade General Education Committee~~, the Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibilities Committee, the Committee on Academic Quality, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Graduate Council and the Handbook Committee.

Proposed Change 2 on p. 9 of the Senate Charter (see strikethrough)

C. Composition and Duties of Other Standing Committees

The composition and duties of other Faculty Senate standing committees shall be set forth in Bylaws of each standing committee, which Bylaws are subject to approval of the Faculty Senate and are linked here:

1. [The Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:](#)
2. ~~[The Colonnade General Education Committee:](#)~~
3. [The Faculty Welfare and Professional Responsibility Committee:](#)
4. [The Committee on Academic Quality:](#)
5. [The Budget and Finance Committee:](#)
6. [The Graduate Council:](#) and,
7. [The Handbook Committee:](#)

Rationale for Charter Revision:

The Colonnade General Education Committee recommends that the Senate Charter be amended to remove the Colonnade General Education Committee from the Faculty Senate's list of Standing Committees.

The committee also recommends that its functions (a) to make proposals to the Faculty Senate concerning the structure and content of the Colonnade General Education Program, and (b) to consider new courses and review existing courses proposed for the Colonnade General Education Program be reassigned to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee.

Expedited approval processes assigned to the Colonnade General Education Committee Chair will shift to the General Education Program Director. Moreover, other functions of the Colonnade General Education Committee will be re-assigned to a group of faculty appointed by the Provost's Office (a) to develop, review, and recommend Colonnade General Education guidelines, policies, performance standards, assessment and assessment policies; and (b) to verify that courses and policies meet the established Colonnade General Education Program requirements. This new group will be referred to as WKU General Education Oversight, Assessment, and Improvement Group (WKU GenEd OAI Group), and details of its memberships and responsibilities follow.

The WKU GenEd OAI Group will work in collaboration with the Director of the General Education Program and faculty who teach and support general education courses. This group will provide program-level oversight by reviewing assessment data, recommending improvements, promoting consistency across general education learning outcomes, and supporting the ongoing development of the general education program and faculty teaching in the program. Recommendations from the group will be to the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee by the General Education Program Director.

Currently, the members of the Colonnade General Education Committee serve two years, but this can sometimes be limited to one year based on Senate membership and other faculty course and service commitments. Consequently, there is frequent rotation in this committee which limits institutional memory. The WKU GenEd OAI Group will consist of faculty who teach general education courses or who are responsible for leading unit assessments of general education courses. Membership will be by appointment of the Provost's Office by recommendation of College Dean's Offices, and appointments will aim for at least one member per academic college. Additional appointments for membership may be recommended by the General Education program director to ensure that each category of courses in the General Education Program is represented to support course proposals, assessment, and faculty professional development. Terms of appointment are projected to be three years. These details will be worked out with the new group when formed. Initial appointment duration may be staggered to ensure that the committee maintains institutional memory.