

## **Statutes Committee Annual Report for 2007-2008**

**Members:** Carol Colatrella – LCC, Paul Griffin – ISyE, TyAnna Herrington – LCC, Ed Price – IMTC (Exec. Bd. Liaison), Timothy Strike – GTRI, Nick Wellkamp (student), David White – CC

During the past year:

The committee met on 4 September 2007 to select the 2007-2008 Chair (Timothy Strike) and to discuss three items identified for Statutes Committee involvement. The items included the change in the handbook to incorporate changes based on the new Student Code of Conduct, a change in what the BOR has to approve and what can be done at the Institute President level and the Use of Facilities Document. The change in the handbook to incorporate changes based on the new Student Code of Conduct was started, the changes due to BOR changes was put on hold at the request of the Secretary of the Executive Board and a member was selected to attend any meetings on the Use of Facilities Document.

The committee met again on 30 October 2007 to discuss the draft of the change to the Student Grievance and Appeal Committee. The effort was delayed while issues were being worked but a proposed change was needed to the Executive Board quickly. It was decided that the proposed change would be finished and distributed to the committee members via email for comment and voting. The proposed change was briefed to the Executive board and subsequently at two General Faculty meetings, was approved and recorded in the minutes of those meetings.

Any action on the Use of Facilities changes was placed on hold while the task group working that issue completes a proposed document for the Statutes Committee to evaluate. The Statutes Committee also decided to do as much as possible via email as scheduling a meeting of the members was taking more effort than the actual meeting.

The committee was made aware of and participated in several meetings of the task force that was put together by Andy Smith and chaired by Monique Tavares to review the entire faculty handbook. The task force is looking at identifying grammatical errors, misspellings and places where the different sections may lead to confusion or apparent contradiction. Continual communication was maintained between the committee and Monique Tavares throughout the year.

A task force was set up by the Executive Board to look at ways to improve faculty elections. The committee reviewed and approved the proposed changes. The proposed change was briefed to the Executive board and subsequently at two General Faculty meetings, was approved and recorded in the minutes of those meetings.

Based on a request by the Executive Board, the Statutes Committee reviewed the Statement on Academic Rights and Responsibilities. Georgia Tech had already embraced this document and there was a need to incorporate it into the Faculty Handbook. A proposed addition was developed and distributed to the committee members via email for comment and voting. The proposed change was briefed to the Executive Board and subsequently at a General Faculty meeting, was approved and recorded in the minutes of those meetings.

The committee worked with and helped the task force headed by Andy Peterson to improve Section 14 – Faculty Status and Grievance Committee (FSGC) Procedures. This work was also coordinated with the FSGC chair Carol Colatrella. The proposed change was briefed to the Executive board and subsequently at a General Faculty meeting, was approved and recorded in the minutes of those meetings.

At the beginning of the summer a request was made to look into changing the guidelines for Research Scientist Promotion and Hiring from RSI to RSII. A task group was formed to look at and propose changes to the handbook. Timothy Strike participated in the task group so a proposal could be discussed and voted on at the first Statutes Committee meeting of the 2008-09 academic year.

No other requests were received or considered by the Statutes Committee during the year. All committee business was completed.

Respectfully submitted on 6 October 2008  
Timothy Strike, Chair, 2007-2008