Statutes Committee
Minutes of August 30, 2006

Members Present: Ron Bohlander - GTRI (2002-2008, 2003-2006 Chair), Russell Gentry – Arch. (2004-2006 Exec. Bd. Liaison), TyAnna Herrington – LCC (2004-2008), George Johnston – Arch. (2003-2006), Tim Strike – GTRI (2003-2009), David White – CC (2006-2009)

Members Absent: Paul Griffin – ISyE (2004-2007) – excused to host last minute VIP visit, Saira Amir – student member (graduated)

Visitors: none

1. Ron Bohlander, 2005-2006 chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. in Centennial Research Building, Room 215.
2. Committee members serving in 2006-2007 elected Paul Griffin as chair. Paul has indicated a willingness to serve and has been serving as Chair-Elect.
3. The Committee then reviewed five sets of changes to the Faculty Handbook that were referred to the committee by responsible parties and have been prepared by members of the committee during the 2005-2006 term. See attached.
4. The first set of changes is to add Archivists as members of the faculty in Sections 5.1.1 and 5.3.1 per recommendations of the faculty of the library and of the Executive Board. The changes as prepared were adopted by the committee. George Johnston was the author of this set of changes and promised to send the chair the documented position descriptions for Archivists that show them to be equivalent to Librarians in qualifications.
5. The second set of changes describes the processes for hiring with tenure. The committee considered some remaining questions that Russ Gentry raised concerning whether both Deans and School chairs must both formally sign off and whether faculty committees involved in the process may be appointed or must be elected. It was decided to accept the language as prepared that leaves these things to the discretion of the units involved.
6. The third set of changes describes the new Professor of the Practice. It was prepared by Paul Griffin and embodies in Section 17.7 the language of a proposal adopted by the General Faculty in their meeting of February 28, 2006. Ron explained that it contains all that the faculty adopted unless their provisions were already contained elsewhere in the Handbook. Duplication was avoided so that the faculty could efficiently make changes in the future without having to deal with redundancies. The committee adopted the language of these changes as prepared.
7. The fourth set of changes provides clarifications of Intellectual Property policies. Revised wording just makes clearer what the policy has been all along. These improvements were suggested by the Office of Technology Licensing and by GTRC. The committee adopted the language of the changes as prepared.
8. The fifth and final set of changes came to us from a committee of research faculty in GTRI and RI via the Associate Provost for Research with all recommending approval. These changes recognize certain additional evidences of technical mastery of complex technical work and of supervision. The committee adopted the language as prepared. David White noted that there may be a similar need to set out policies for the hiring and promotion in the different levels of Professionals with General Faculty Status or Academic Professionals. The committee agreed this would be a matter to look into. George Johnston asked about the promotion processes for librarians and archivists which are now documented in procedures internal to the library. The sense of the committee is that titles of the general faculty that are unique to a specific unit like the library could be handled by that unit as long as they conformed to Board of Regents and other Georgia Institute of Technology policy.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted on August 30, 2006. Approved by email ballot unanimously on Aug. 30, 2006.
Ron Bohlander, 2005-2006 Chair