

Joint Session of Governance
February 24, 2011
4:00-5:00pm TUC ABC

Agenda

Call to order (Lane Hart)

Introduction of Joint Resolution 1 (2011) regarding Taskforce on Smoking (Lane Hart)

Introduction of Joint Resolution 2 (2011) regarding safety (Alexis Ignatiou)

Introduction of Discussion regarding course evaluations, class size, and tenure (Richard Harknett)

Remarks and Adjournment (Drew Smith)

Joint Governance Resolution No. 1 (2011)
Request for review of University Rule Number 3361: 10-17-06

- 1 **Whereas** on December 13, 2005, the University of Cincinnati Board of Trustees approved an amendment to the policy titled Conduct and Ethics: Smoking Regulations, and
- 2 **Whereas** this revised policy became effective as of January 1, 2006, and
- 3 **Whereas** it was therein acknowledged that the rationale for the revisions was that “[s]moking is one of the largest causes of illness and premature death in the United States. Research findings indicate that nonsmokers who are regularly exposed to tobacco smoke are at increased risk of illness,” and
- 4 **Whereas** it was also therein acknowledged that “[the University] shall be dedicated to providing a safe and healthful environment,” and
- 5 **Whereas** the University Rule Number 3361:10-17-06 has been revised five times since its enactment in 1991, and
- 6 **Whereas** five years have passed since the most recent revision of University Rule Number 3361:10-17-06, and
- 7 **Whereas** policies should be periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to satisfy the intended purpose, and
- 8 **Whereas** the re-convening of a task force consisting of members from all areas of campus, as constructed when the policy was reviewed last, would be the most appropriate measure to review the current rule’s effectiveness;
- 9 **Therefore be it resolved** that we request the activation by the President of a multi-constituency (students, faculty, staff, administration) task force to undergo a review -of University Rule Number 3361:10-17-06 Conduct and ethics: Smoking regulations.

Joint Governance Resolution No. 2 (2011)

**Proposed Resolution to Enhance Safety Preparation for
UC Faculty and Teaching Assistants**

Objective: To help faculty members and teaching assistants to react effectively during a catastrophic event such as an armed subject gaining access to our classroom. Although we can never be prepared enough for a worst-case scenario, we can take steps to curb panic and protect the lives of our students and our own.

Rationale: Campus safety and classroom safety are important issues relating to the quality of life for students and faculty. Fortunately, we have not had a major shooting/violent rampage on our campus, but we must always remain alert and learn how to best deal with such a situation. Knowing best practices about dealing with traumatic events may help minimize panic and protect lives.

Therefore be it resolved that each classroom Faculty and Teaching Assistant have easy access to emergency response training material. Access to this material can be increased by adding the www.uc.edu/pubsafety link and the office of judicial affairs link <http://www.uc.edu/conduct.html> on the following websites: Blackboard mainframe, Graduate Student Government Association, and Faculty Senate. These links should be highly visible and include video modules on safety preparation and exercises that are taped inside UC buildings. Furthermore, as part of their orientation to UC, new Faculty and new Teaching Assistants are encouraged to attend a safety seminar designed by field experts and the department of public safety. Such safety seminars may also include participating in a live drill. The topic of safety should also be part of the faculty senate boot camp. All senators could then disseminate this information to their colleagues in their respective colleges.

Introduction of Discussion regarding course evaluations, class size, and tenure

Agenda Discussion issue (A): the relationship between class size and quality educational outcomes.

There is some shared concern that class sizes will increase overtime and within that reality we want to explore how the institution can support faculty and teaching assistants with adjusting pedagogy to retain quality learning. So we need to speak to a desire to watch institutionally class size creep if you will, but also recognize that quality needs to be supported in large class environments and perhaps delineate what would help instructors. If size increases, we need to retain quality with adjustments in pedagogy to enable faculty professional development and adjustment.

Agenda Discussion issue (B): the relationship between evaluating teaching and the tenure process.

Some student concern has been raised that teaching receives the appropriate weight it deserves when decisions on tenure are made. This raises many issues worth discussion regarding two separate issues that can also be related: the quality of input from teaching evaluations and the relative weight of teaching in tenure decisions. We should begin discussion of these separately.