

Rules & Review Committee: Dr. Robert Styer, Chair, gave the following report:

In the 2006-2007 academic year, the Rules and Review Committee reviewed the Executive Committee of the Senate and then reviewed the full University Senate. We appreciate the many members who completed our surveys and for the thoughtful responses to the open-ended questions.

The smooth functioning of the Senate Executive Committee impressed us. As our report summarizes, "The Executive Committee is composed of very responsible members who work comfortably together in a very organized manner."

Our committee just completed the review of the entire Senate. We are thankful that you take time to read this report. Overall, we believe that the Senate deserves praise for accomplishing its primary goals. The Senate works in a collaborative manner and the committees of the Senate follow through on assignments and projects in a timely manner. In the interests of continual improvement, our report notes some areas where the Senate can improve its effectiveness. One suggestion in particular deserves extensive debate---the Senate should clarify its legislative role in relation to the President.

The Rules and Review Committee is thrilled when we note that some of our past suggestions appear in Senate Committee minutes. For instance, this spring the Budget Committee minutes had an extensive discussion of our recommendations in last year's report. We note that several committees have some form of orientation for new members. We also have discussed the benefits of continuity in student representation, and are grateful the SGA has considered changes in their elections procedures.

The Rules and Review Committee is charged to carefully consider any suggestions for changes in the Senate Constitution. Over the past few years, the committee has considered several, some of which appear on today's agenda. We are confident that you will give these amendments the serious and critical attention they deserve.

Sincerely submitted on behalf of the Rules and Review Committee,
Robert Styer, 2006-2007 Chairperson of the Rules and Review Committee