



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
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Faculty Senate Newsletter

Synopsis of the December 17, 2014 Faculty Senate Meeting

Of Particular Importance to All University Faculty

Revisions to Charge for Committee on Graduate Studies

1. The charge includes language stating that the Committee will be responsible for oversight and guidance on academic and policy issues for postdoctoral scholars and fellows.
2. The revisions provide clarity with respect to the types of graduate degree programs that require review by the Committee on Graduate Studies. It defines **new** graduate degree programs in accordance with the definition included in the Ohio Regents Advisory Committee on Graduate Study (RACGS) Guidelines and Procedures. The Guidelines do not define the degrees of Doctor of Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine and Doctor of Jurisprudence as graduate degree programs, and therefore, the revised Graduate Studies charge specifically excludes these degree programs from review.

Other Items from the Meeting

Revisions to School of Nursing By-Laws

Professor Peg DiMarco, SON, presented the changes to the SON By-Laws. The revisions include changes to the membership of the PhD Council to include more faculty members at the ranks of assistant and associate professor, and to stagger the members' terms.

Report on Campus Safety

John Wheeler, Senior Vice President of Administration presented a report on Campus Safety. Information on the report is included in the minutes which will be posted on the Faculty Senate [website](#) after the minutes have been approved by the Faculty Senate.

Other Items from the Meeting

Report from the Faculty Senate Finance Committee

Professor Scott Fine, chair of the Senate Finance committee, gave a report on the activities of the committee during the fall semester. Information on the report is included in the minutes which will be posted on the Faculty Senate [website](#) after the minutes have been approved by the Faculty Senate.

New Business: Senate Resolution re Staff Grievance Process

Professor Bill Merrick sought Faculty Senate endorsement of a recommendation to the President to establish a staff grievance process that is equivalent to the one available to faculty and students. There is an established process for staff grievances but Prof. Merrick noted that the process is handled by HR and there is no peer review panel at the level of the informal or formal grievance. The Senate did not endorse the resolution but voted to refer the issue to the Senate Executive Committee for further discussion and information on the current staff grievance process.

If you have any questions, please contact one of the senators for your school or college. The list of senators can be found on the Faculty Senate [website](#).

Be sure to add faculty senate@case.edu to your address book to make sure these messages make it to your inbox.