MINUTES
Congressional Bylaws Committee
6.29.15


Members Absent: D. Zeps (Excused)

Others Present: L. Meinholz, J. Rebholz

At 9:30AM Chair Runge called the meeting to order.

Chair Runge paused to accept public comments. Secretary noted that the committee had been extended beyond it’s 1 July expiration date to 1 September. Secretary further noted that two upcoming vacancies would be advertised to the incoming Congress membership to be filled.

Mr. Popp moved, seconded by Ms. Dorman, to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting. All in Favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Runge introduced members of the Bylaws Focus Group.

Parliamentarian and non-voting ex-officio member Jake Smith introduced the latest draft document and described those changes made to the original draft, based on the feedback cited in the minutes from the previous meeting.

Composition of standing committees was discussed. Mr. Smith described himself as ‘agnostic’ on the question if committees should include a designated CSEC seat and if that member should be voting or non-voting. Discussion heard that a designated CSEC seat is unnecessary.

Ms. Rosas arrived.

Discussion heard as to the value of a designated CSEC seat that allows to fill the role of a subject matter expert and to communicate between the committee and CSEC. Discussion heard that CSEC could designate liaisons to standing committees.

Discussion heard regarding composition and election of Executive Committee. Discussion heard regarding staggering terms and limiting members to two consecutive three year terms. Discussion heard regarding how original CSEC seat designations came to be and if those designations are still relevant. Discussion heard that Seat 7 should be updated with a new title, obtained from OHR. Question raised if electorate for CSEC elections should be limited to participating only in voting for seats of the electors job category.

Support heard for staggering of CSEC terms and question raised as to how a committee with simultaneously expiring membership could execute staggered terms. Discussion heard that different
term lengths could be tied to different vote totals. Question raised if the CSEC should be comprised of sitting members of Congress and voted for from within the Congress.

Ms. Runge was excused for the remainder of the meeting and Vice Chair Popp executed the remainder of the agenda.

Discussion heard that CSEC should be elected campus wide so that those residing in Congressional seats without a sitting member still have representation.

Questions raised regarding CSEC member recall procedures.

Questions raised regarding the Communications Committee and the scope of its Charge. Discussion heard regarding Congressional plans to create a Communications Committee at their next scheduled meeting. Mr. Smith noted that this draft of the Bylaws was created without the knowledge of planned Congressional action.

Discussion heard as to the composition of committees in terms of Congressional Representatives, CSEC members, and unelected classified staff.

Discussion heard that designation of committee terms of three years is in conflict with the annual elections of classified staff shared governance.

At 11:05AM, Ms. Dorman moved, seconded by Ms. Rosas, to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes prepared and submitted by: J. Lease / Secretary