

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for the November 2017 meeting  
Report written by Scott Pegan, Chair  
Report presented by Andy Owsiak, Chair-Elect  
November 29, 2017

President Morehead, Council Colleagues and Guests:

The Executive Committee of the University Council met on November 8, 2017 in the Peabody Boardroom of the Administration Building. A quorum being present, Chair Scott Pegan called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting was opened with discussing the recent Board of Regents (BOR) changes. Specifically, the BORs desire to standardize language across sections and update the USG policy in regards to the recent Campus Carry law and the creation of Academic Calendars. Discussion surrounding the latter also included the BOR clarifying the terms of semesters across USGs at 15 weeks of instruction and 1 week of finals. Also, discussion surrounded an addition to the BOR policy that placed authority for Academic Calendars under the Presidents, or their designees. Discussion pertaining to President Morehead placing this authority with the VP of instruction, who would be guided by the Educational Affairs Committee, occurred. Subsequent discussion revolved around the need to update the University Council by-laws to reflect these changes.

The committee then consider the action items placed before it from the standing committees. Of the nine (9) proposals brought forth from the University Curriculum Committee, we heard nine (9) and all of those heard were approved. One (1) proposal from the Statues, Bylaws, and Committees Committee was heard pertaining to an amendment of the Bylaws in regards to lifting the requirement of academic rank on a number of the University Council's subcommittees. A number of viewpoints were exchanged. A motion was made, seconded to return this proposal to the Statues, Bylaws, and Committees Committee. Principal concerns, among others, surrounded whether the proposed changes would allow individuals with only part-time relationships with UGA to serve on Council. The committee also discussed briefly the 2016-2017 academic report before moving on to Old and New Business. Under new business, the GRA representative brought up concerns of graduate students pertaining to a currently floated concept in the U.S. Congress about federally taxing student tuition waivers as income. A number of viewpoints were exchanged on how to best bring this issue to the University Council's attention. With no further items, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.