Senate Operations Review Committee
Report to Senate – Meeting of January 29, 2009
Results of Survey regarding viewing the Senate Agenda on the Web

Introduction

A web based survey was sent to all Senators in November 2008, to gain insight into members' preferences regarding accessing meeting materials electronically. Senators were asked about their preferences and concerns regarding web-based viewing of agenda materials. General comments were also gathered. Currently, there are seven (7) Senators who have chosen not to receive a paper agenda and who use their own laptops via wireless internet access during Senate meetings.

Review of Issue

The following points summarize the Committee's discussion:

- The overall preference of Senators was to continue receiving paper agendas;
- Out of 31 Senators responding, 19 were currently viewing materials on the web. Only 2 respondents did not have access to a lap top;
- The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees was moving towards eliminating paper agendas;
- Consideration was given to eliminating paper agendas and transferring the responsibility of printing part or all of the agenda to individual Senators. Concern was raised about downloading the expense of printing onto individual students and units. Considering the expense of printer ink and paper it was agreed that it was more cost effective for the Senate Office to continue providing paper agendas.

Recommendation

The Committee concluded that the Senate Office should continue to provide paper agendas for Senators who wish to receive them.

Respectfully submitted

J. Stairs, Chair, SORC

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