

VI. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES (none)

VII. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Council

• **Michael T. Brown, Chair**

1. Proposed amendment to [Senate Bylaw 181](#)- Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy (**action**)

Proposed Amendment to Senate Bylaw 181-Information Technology and Telecommunication

The Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication has proposed a name change and an amendment to its charge. In accordance with Senate Bylaw 116, Authority of the Assembly – Part II.E., “The Assembly is authorized to approve modifications to the University Academic Senate legislation. Except for Bylaws marked “[Protected – See Bylaw 166.E]”, modification of Bylaws requires the approval of two-thirds of all voting members of the Assembly present; modification of Regulations requires the approval of a majority of all voting members of the Assembly present. . . .Modification of legislation shall take effect immediately following approval unless a different date is specified or required.”

The proposed amendment to Senate Bylaw 181 was approved by the Academic Council at its meeting of June 27, 2007. The University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction has found the proposed amendment consonant with the Code of the Academic Senate.

Current Language:

181. Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy [formerly Computer Policy] [formerly 155] (CC 12 May 2004)

- A. Membership shall be determined in accordance with Bylaw 128 and shall include the Chair of the Library Committee who shall serve as ex officio member. One undergraduate student and one graduate student shall sit with the Committee. [See Bylaw 128.E.] The Vice Chair shall be chosen in accordance with the Bylaw 128.D.2. and 3. (Am 7 May 87; Am 28 May 2003)
- B. Duties: The Committee shall represent the Senate in all matters of instruction and research policy involving the use of information technology and telecommunications and shall advise the President, consistent with Bylaw 40, concerning the acquisition and use of information and telecommunications technology at the University either at its own initiative or at the President's request. (Am 7 May 87; Am 28 May 2003)

Proposed Language:

155. ~~Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy~~ Computing and Communications

- A. Membership shall be determined in accordance with Bylaw 128 and shall include the Chair of the Library Committee who shall serve as ex officio member. One undergraduate student and one graduate student shall sit with the Committee. [See Bylaw 128.E.] The Vice Chair shall be chosen in accordance with the Bylaw 128.D.2. and 3. (Am 7 May 87; Am 28 May 2003)
- B. Duties: The Committee shall represent the Senate in all matters ~~of instruction and research policy involving the use of information technology and telecommunications~~ **involving the uses and impact of computing and communications technology**, and shall advise the President, consistent with Bylaw 40, concerning the acquisition, ~~and use of information and telecommunications technology~~ **usage, and support of computing and communications technology and related policy issues** at the University, either at its own initiative or at the President's request.

JUSTIFICATION:

The University Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunications Policy (ITTP) seeks to change the committee's name to the University Committee on Computing and Communications (UCCC, or familiarly, "U3C"), and amend its charge in parallel. Change is rapid in information technology and computing, and communications technology increasingly impacts our faculty's teaching and research as well as the student experience. While the Committee still exercises its responsibility in reviewing policy changes, more and more the Committee initiates and leads discussions on the enhanced and expanded uses of computing and communication technologies in support of the academic mission. The proposed changes will encourage future Committee leadership and membership to pursue this expanded and more activist agenda.

The following detail the proposed amendment:

- *Remove the word "Policy" from the Committee name.* The ambiguous wording of the current name leaves the misleading impression that policy issues dominate the agenda or alternatively that policy issues are limited to telecommunications, both of which are inaccurate. The list of duties makes clear that policy is only one of our ongoing concerns.
- *Remove the word "Technology" from the Committee name.* Having this word in the title leaves the impression that a primary committee concern is with technology for its own sake, when in fact the emphases are on the uses and impact of technology. Thus, like the corresponding Senate committees at Berkeley and Santa Cruz, ITTP proposes to leave technology out of the name, while making clear in its duties that

the uses and impact of technology are the Committee's foci. The committee name could list all the key words in its name, such as "technology", "uses and impact" and "policy", but ITTP feels this is unnecessary and cumbersome. The list of duties, rather than the name, is the best place to clarify and limit the scope of committee activities, while keeping the name simple and generic.

- *Replace "Telecommunications" with "Communications" throughout.* The term "telecommunications" has become synonymous with voice telephony. Today the issues and opportunities surrounding communications technology as a basis for information access and collaboration are far richer and broader than telephony. ITTP believes that the words "computing and communications" in tandem, together with our list of duties, make it clear that the Committee's scope includes human activities enabled by communications technology, rather than broader issue of human communication.
- *Replace "Information" with "Computing" throughout.* As library functions are increasingly based on digital technology, ITTP feels that not including the words "information" or "storage" in its name and duties makes clearer the distinction between ITTP and the Committee on Library. Nevertheless, there is overlap and a need for coordination in the sense that the library and scholarly communications functions are dependent on a general computing and communications infrastructure, and hence the continued justification for including the Chair of the Committee on Library as an *ex officio* member of the ITTP Committee.

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of proposed amendments to Senate Bylaw 181.