Minutes of the Bylaws Budget Committee Meeting
Date: August 29, 2025
Time: 1:00 pm – 1:35 pm
Location: Petigru 321

Present:

- Nicole Fisk
- Carla Flink
- David Fuente
- Barbara Koons-Witt
- Wayne Outten
- Paula A. Vasquez
- Dean Tommy Hodges (Ex-officio)
- Ashley Maciaszek (Ex-officio)

Special Guest:

- Jean Taylor Ellis

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1. Call to Order and Purpose of Meeting
Paula Vasquez called the meeting to order and introduced Jean Taylor Ellis. Dr. Taylor Ellis introduced herself as the Secretary to the Faculty and the college parliamentarian. She then explained the committee's role and the purpose of the initial meeting: to determine term durations for members, elect a committee chair, and discuss potential topics for the year.

2. Member Term Durations and Election of Chair
The committee established the following term durations for its members:

- **Millisa Bates:** 1 year
- **Nicole Fisk:** 2 years
- **Carla Flink:** 3 years
- **David Fuente:** 3 years
- **Barbara Koons-Witt:** 2 years
- **Wayne Outten:** 1 year
- **Paula A. Vasquez:** 3 years

Wayne Outten was unanimously elected as the committee chair.

3. Dean's Remarks
Dean Tommy Hodges provided an overview of his vision for the committee. He emphasized that a key objective is to help faculty become more familiar with the university's budget model. He believes the committee can share valuable, accurate information back to college units, which would benefit the entire college community. The dean stated that the committee's role is not to focus on the big-picture, university-wide budget or on the small,

unit-specific details, but rather to provide a valuable mid-range perspective. He hopes the committee can offer new perspectives on how the college conducts its business and facilitates useful discussions about trade-offs within the college.

4. Suggested Discussion Topics for the Year

The committee discussed and suggested the following topics for future meetings:

- **Understanding the University's Budget Model:** The committee will get familiar with the university's budget model. It was suggested that the Senate Budget Committee's training documents be requested. Ashley Maciaszek agreed to lead a future meeting to help the committee learn about and understand the model.
- **Administrative Impact of the Budget Model:** A discussion with the dean on how the budget model affects his decisions as an administrator.
- **Carolina Core Courses:** A discussion about possible changes to Carolina Core courses and the budgetary implications for the college.
- **Efficient Communication:** A discussion on how to effectively communicate and share budget process information with others.

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