Resolutions from the 2006-2007 Academic Year

1. During the February 2007 meeting, Judy Shea, Interim Chair of the Committee on Pluralism, proposed an amendment to the Council’s bylaws which would create a new Council committee called the University Council Committee on Diversity and Equity. This committee would represent a merger of two standing committees – the President’s Affirmative Action Council and the University Council Committee on Pluralism. The general charge for the new committee reads as follows:

   Committee on Diversity and Equity

   The Committee on Diversity and Equity aids Penn in fostering and taking full advantage of its diversity as well as in strengthening ties across all boundaries to enrich and enliven the campus community. The Committee shall advise the offices of the president, provost, and the executive vice presidents on ways to develop and maintain a supportive atmosphere on campus for the inclusion and appreciation of diversity among all members of the University community. The Committee will review and provide advice regarding the University’s equal opportunity and affirmative action programs and policies. The areas in which the Committee shall report to the Council include diversity within the educational and work settings, integration of staff and faculty into the larger campus community, and ways to foster a campus environment that is inclusive and supportive of difference. The Committee also will advise the administration on specific diversity issues that may arise on campus.

   Action: A motion was made and seconded, a vote was taken, and the proposal to amend the bylaws passed with no dissensions or abstentions.