1. What are the major standing school faculty governance units?

Every third year the faculty of the School of Information vote for either an Executive Committee or Budget Council form of governance as outlined in the UT Handbook of Operating Procedures. The School is currently governed by an extended budget council, which consists of all tenured faculty in the school, currently numbering four professors and four associate professors. This committee advises the dean on all administrative matters, including faculty annual reviews, recruitment, promotion and tenure, and post-tenure reviews.

2. Does the school have general faculty meetings?

The graduate studies committee (GSC), which is a standing committee consisting of all tenured or tenure track faculty and invited guests, sets policy and makes decisions affecting the school's operations. This committee meets monthly during the academic year.

The chairperson of this committee is elected each year by faculty at the first meeting. The chairperson sends out a request for agenda items and distributes the agenda prior to each meeting. Any member of the committee may add items to the agenda. The dean participates in the GSC not as a leader, but as a member of the graduate faculty. The minutes of each graduate studies committee meeting are recorded by the dean's executive assistant and shared before the subsequent meeting for approval or modification. All standing committees report to the GSC on a routine basis.

3. What are the procedures for considering general academic policies?

Standing committees are appointed by the dean each year to deal with curriculum, research, admissions, recruitment, and outreach. Ad-hoc committees are also formed as needed. These committees meet regularly throughout the semester and make recommendations on relevant matters to the graduate studies committee. The graduate studies committee, which is comprised of all tenured and tenure-track faculty, votes on subsequent academic policy.

4. Where are the school procedures posted on the school's website?

School academic policies and procedures relating to governance are not currently on the school's website, but are distributed to faculty via email and internal memoranda. A current listing of standing committees and members is available on the website.

5. When did the general faculty approve these school faculty governance procedures?

The faculty last reviewed and voted on governance procedures in September 2007.