The Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs (FCFA) considered three major issues during the 2008-2009 academic year. The first issue, an extensive revision of Chapter 26-41 of the Faculty Code, Reorganization, Consolidation, and Elimination Procedures, was carried over from the previous year, when it had been thoroughly discussed by the Council itself as well as reviewed by other interested parties (the Board of Deans and Chancellors, the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting, and the Faculty Council on Tri-Campus Policy). The FCFA further debated this issue during the Autumn Quarter, refined the proposed changes to Section 26-41, and presented the proposal to both the Senate Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate. Both of these bodies gave overwhelming approval to the proposed changes, as did the faculty as a whole.

The second issue concerned certain changes to Chapter 27 of the Faculty Code (Administrative and Conciliatory Proceedings for the Resolution of Differences). Conciliation is far less costly in both time and money than adjudicative proceedings (described in Section 28 of the Code), and are therefore a preferred mechanism for resolving differences when the parties are amenable to this approach. Since the workload of the conciliation officers had recently increased as a result of more frequent use of the procedure described in Section 27-41 of the Code, the FCFA proposed that their number should be increased as necessary. This proposal, too, passed overwhelmingly.

The third issue, changes to the composition of the Faculty Senate and the Senate Executive Committee, has far-reaching implications and will receive further consideration next year. The primary reasons behind this proposal are to make the Senate more effective and more economical to administer. Although this proposal is by no means finalized, it will most likely involve a somewhat smaller Senate that allows each member to participate in its deliberations in a more meaningful manner.