The Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) organized the Working Group at the end of Spring Term, 2005. Membership in the Working Group consisted of all ECAC members who could serve during summer, 2005. ECAC members for both the 2004-5 year and the 2005-6 academic years were eligible for participation. Non-voting members of the Working Group were the members of the Faculty Voice Committee, and Dr. Robert Banks. The charge to the Working Group was to frame the issues emanating from the Faculty Voice report and its recommendations for action by academic governance beginning in the fall of 2005.

The Working Group met five times the summer of 2005 to develop a process for moving the Faculty Voice recommendations through academic governance. The group first came up with ways to encourage participation of Faculty Council representatives, advising ECAC to hold an extra, early FC meeting to present information on the governance structure, review the status of the Faculty Voice report, and give representatives ideas for reaching their constituencies. The Group then sought ways to divide the Faculty Voice recommendations into specific tasks, to be voted upon by Faculty Council and, if approved, reviewed by ad hoc committees composed of members elected by Faculty Council. These tasks are: reorganization of the governance structure, administrative review, program review, communication and transparency, and fixed-term faculty. If approved, the tasks will be delivered to the committees, four of which will be expected to present reports and action items by Spring 2006. The reorganization task committee will be expected to complete its work in the Fall 2006 and, because of their effect on a broad spectrum of governance activities, its recommendations will also move through Academic Council. The Working Group will meet with the new Provost to keep him abreast of the status of the Faculty Voice report and garner his support and advice.