ARTICLE IV. The Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Assembly, the two elected Executive Committee Members-at-Large, the Chairs of the Standing Committees of the Assembly - *ex officio* with vote, the most recent past Chair of the Assembly - *ex officio* with vote, and a representative of the Boulder Campus Retired Faculty Association with vote. The chair of any representative faculty council within schools and colleges may be eligible to serve as an *ex officio* member without vote. (See Standing Rules for determination of eligibility.) Other individuals may be designated members of the Executive Committee, from time to time, without vote, as provided by the Standing Rules of the Boulder Faculty Assembly.

Section 2. The Executive Committee coordinates actions of the Assembly. The Executive Committee shall also:

| a) oversee and review all actions of committees; |
| b) refer issues to committees as appropriate; |
| c) decide whether to forward committee proposals and reports to the Assembly; |
| d) review the degree to which each committee is fulfilling its charges and responsibilities at least once every four years; |
| e) take specific actions on particular issues as directed by the Assembly; and |
| f) act for the Assembly between meetings when time does not permit the issue to be brought before the Assembly. All such responses shall be reported to the Assembly at its next meeting. |

ARTICLE V. Standing and Ad-Hoc Committees

A. Committees

Section 1. Committees act as official advisory panels to the Executive Committee and the Assembly as provided for in the Standing Rules. Committees shall regularly evaluate the campus policies, procedures, and standards that fall within the scope of their charge. Since they are subordinate advisory bodies, all proposals, reports, and recommendations of standing and ad-hoc committees must be considered for approval by the Executive Committee before they are presented to the Assembly. Standing committee items not approved by the Executive Committee can brought before the Assembly for consideration by any individual BFA member in the form of a motion.
The Bylaws committee was careful and thorough in its consideration of nature of the relationship between the Executive Committee and the several standing committees. All of the resources consulted by Bylaws expressly acknowledge limitations on the role and authority of committees:

RONR, p. 490:
Generally the term *committee* implies that, within the area of its assigned responsibilities, the committee has less authority to act independently for the society (or other constituting power) than a board is usually understood to have. Thus, if the committee is to do more than report its findings or recommendations to the assembly, it may be empowered to act for the assembly on specific instructions.

AIP, p. 188:
A standing committee is a committee that has a fixed term of office and does the work within its particular field that is assigned to it by the bylaws or referred to it by the organization, or the governing board.

Robert’s Simplified, p. 187:
A committee can only do what the organization asks it to do; it cannot act independently of the organization. A committee is always a subordinate body to the assembly or to the board. However, if a committee originates an idea that it feels will benefit the group, it can bring the idea to the assembly in the form of a motion.

Dummies, p. 255:
In this chapter, I cover the technical aspects of committees as subordinate groups, each with a limited focus on a particular subject or aspect of your organization’s operation.

- *Robert’s Rules for Dummies* (Dummies)

**The BFA Executive Committee**
The Executive Committee is comprised of several officers, the immediate former chair of the Assembly, a representative of the retired faculty, and the chairs of all the standing committees. In at least three areas—years of BFA experience, proven commitment to faculty governance, and up-to-date familiarity with the ongoing business of the Assembly—the Executive Committee properly owns the responsibility for guiding and directing the BFA. While always respecting the rights of individual members to bring business before the Assembly, the Executive Committee, working with the BFA chair, decides what will come before the general Assembly for consideration and approval. This essential role, based as it is on the collective wisdom of the Committee’s members and the need for effective procedure, is made explicit in all the texts on parliamentary procedure (as given above).