

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM NO. 13-10

Date: April 1, 2013

Submitted by: Dr. Randy Pembroke, Vice President for Academic Affairs

SUBJECT: Changes to Faculty Senate Constitution Section II, V, VI

Description: **II. ELIGIBILITY AND MEMBERSHIP**

Current Wording

A. Only faculty on an annual contract are eligible to vote for and to serve on the Faculty Senate, excluding those serving more than half time in administrative capacities; provided, however, faculty on authorized leave of absence or sabbatical shall not be eligible to serve on the Faculty Senate during such period of leave or sabbatical. Any eligible faculty member may put his or her name forward for election.

B. The School of Law, School of Business, School of Applied Studies, School of Nursing, and each division within the College of Arts and Sciences shall elect representatives to the Faculty Senate in proportion to the number of eligible faculty in each unit, with one senator selected to represent each ten faculty members (that number to be rounded up or down to the nearest figure in each voting unit). Representation will be based on the number of faculty in each unit at the start of the spring semester.

C. In addition, five at-large members of the Faculty Senate will be elected by all eligible faculty. No more than two of these may come from any one School or the College.

D. The Librarians of Mabee Library/CRC shall elect one member of the Faculty Senate for every ten of their number. The Librarians of the Law Library shall also elect one member of the Faculty Senate for every ten of their number.

~~E. The Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee shall serve as a non-voting member of the Faculty Senate.~~

Proposed wording:

E. The Graduate Council shall elect a Chair who will serve as a member of Faculty Senate.

F. The Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee shall serve as a non-voting member of the Faculty Senate.

Current Wording

V. MEETINGS

A. Meetings of the Faculty Senate will be held at least once a month throughout the course of the academic year. Special meetings can be called by the Executive Committee should the need arise. Agendas for each meeting will be distributed to all members of the Faculty Senate a week in advance of any scheduled meeting time and made available to the University community.

B. During the course of the summer, the Executive Committee shall be empowered to act provisionally on an emergency basis on behalf of the full body, subject to the approval of the full Faculty Senate when it reconvenes.

C. Meetings of the Faculty Senate are open meetings. Speaking privileges before the Faculty Senate shall be granted to anyone recognized by the President of the body, or whose right to speak is supported by a majority vote of the body. The University President and the President of the Washburn Student Government Association (W.S.G.A.) shall have the right to speak before the Faculty Senate.

D. Actions of the Faculty Senate will be taken by majority vote of members present, with the exception of amendments to the Senate Constitution. All actions of the Faculty Senate, however, require the presence of a quorum, defined as at least half the elected representatives.

~~E. Each matter considered as new business shall be presented to the Faculty Senate as an agenda item in the form of two readings and may not occur on the same date. The first presentation of the matter shall be considered its first reading. Items coming to the Faculty Senate from the Graduate, Faculty Affairs, Academic Affairs, Electoral, or All-University Committees will be taken up as second reading.~~

F. Minutes of all meetings of the Faculty Senate will be distributed to all members, to the University President, to the Secretary of the Board of Regents, the Secretary of the General Faculty, and to the President of W.S.G.A. by the Faculty Senate Secretary. Minutes will also be posted on the University web site by the Faculty Senate Secretary.

G. The President of the University shall have the right to non-concur with any action of the Faculty Senate, but in exercising this right, shall state the reasons for nonconcurrence in a letter to the Secretary of the Faculty Senate. The Board of Regents shall then be notified of the action of the Faculty Senate and the nonconcurrence of the University President, along with the stated reasons for nonconcurrence. A final determination of the matter shall be in the hands of the Board of Regents, and until such time the status quo shall prevail.

Proposed wording

*E. Each matter considered as new business shall be presented to the Faculty Senate as an agenda item in the form of two readings and may not occur on the same date. The first presentation of the matter shall be considered its first reading. Items coming to the Faculty Senate from the Graduate **Council, and** Faculty Affairs, Academic Affairs, Electoral, or All-University Committees will be taken up as second reading.*

Current Wording

VI. COMMITTEES

~~A. In addition to the Executive Committee, the Faculty Senate will establish from its own membership the following committees: an Electoral Committee, to oversee elections of the Faculty Senate; an Academic Affairs Committee, to review and make recommendations on matters of curricula and programs; and a Faculty Affairs Committee, to review and make recommendations on faculty issues.~~

B. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, in its capacity as Committee on Committees, will be empowered to create, as deemed necessary, ad-hoc committees, and to oversee faculty representation on faculty committees.

C. Faculty representatives on faculty committees, other than the Electoral, Faculty Affairs, and Academic Affairs Committees, need not be members of the Faculty Senate. At least one faculty representative on each faculty committee must be a member of the Faculty Senate, by special appointment of the Executive Committee, if necessary.

D. The Faculty Affairs Committee is charged with promoting the general welfare of faculty members. While the scope of the committee is general in nature, the more prominent interests are:

1. Teaching loads and extracurricular duties
2. Retirement, tenure, and sabbatical leaves
3. Faculty grievances
4. Dismissal criteria
5. Salary and faculty benefits
6. The academic sabbatical program

Membership of the committee consists of one Faculty Senate member from each Division within the College of Arts and Sciences, one from the School of Business, one from the School of Law, one from the School of Nursing, one from the School of Applied Studies, and one member from the University libraries, each elected for a one-year term by the Faculty Senate from its ranks. The committee selects its own chairperson.

E. The Academic Affairs Committee is charged with evaluating carefully and making recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding: (1) all new undergraduate programs (majors, degrees, certificates and the like) proposed by any Major Academic unit of the University; (2) major revisions in such programs; (3) and new undergraduate academic programs or revisions to such programs that originate from units other than Major Academic Units. The primary concern of the committee shall be consistency of the proposed program with applicable University-wide guidelines and regulations, potential impact of the program on other established programs in the University, and financial implications of such new or revised programs. The Executive Committee may also delegate other matters to this committee.

The Academic Affairs Committee shall consist of two (2) Faculty Senate members from each Major Academic Unit other than the School of Law, and the Senate representative of Mabee Library/CRC. Each member will be elected to a one-year term by the Faculty Senate from its ranks. The committee selects its own chairperson. Decisions of the Academic Affairs Committee require the affirmative vote of six of the nine members; six members shall constitute a quorum to conduct business. The VPAA or his/her designate will serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member.

~~F. Faculty, Presidential, and Advisory Committees will be organized as follows:~~

~~Faculty committees—including, but not limited to, the Research Committee, Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, Promotion and Tenure Standards Committee, Honors Advisory Board~~

- ~~1. Faculty committees—including, but not limited to, the Research Committee, Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, Promotion and Tenure Standards Committee, Honors Advisory Board, Graduate Committee, and General Education Committee—will be structured as standing committees of the Faculty Senate, with membership consisting of faculty elected by the academic units. Students or staff might also be added to these committees at the discretion of the Faculty Senate. Faculty committees will report their actions to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate has the right to receive, review,~~

~~remand, approve, or disapprove recommendations from these committees. Changes to the charge or membership structure of these committees will be made by action of the Faculty Senate.~~

~~2. Other University Committees are Presidential Committees and Advisory Committees~~

Proposed wording

A, In addition to the Executive Committee, the Faculty Senate will establish from its own membership the following committees: an Electoral Committee, to oversee elections of the Faculty Senate; an Academic Affairs Committee, to review and make recommendations on matters of curricula and programs; and a Faculty Affairs Committee, to review and make recommendations on faculty issues. The Graduate Council will report to Faculty Senate and make recommendations on graduate curricula and faculty issues, excluding School of Law.

*F. The **Graduate Council** voting membership will consist of one faculty member from Mabee Library and at least one faculty member from each School and the College (excluding the School of Law) with a maximum of one faculty member from each graduate program. Committee members shall be faculty who regularly teach or support graduate courses in the programs. The major academic units that offer graduate degree programs and Mabee Library will determine their own procedures for electing or appointing their representatives to the Graduate Council. Each representative will serve a two-year term. The Graduate Council will elect a Chairperson annually who will also serve as a member of the Faculty Senate. The Dean of the Office of Graduate Programs and Academic Outreach, the Vice President for Academic Affairs, and a representative from the School of Law will serve as non-voting ex-officio members of the Council. Decisions of the Graduate Council will require the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the voting members; two-thirds of the members shall constitute a quorum to conduct business. Actions taken by the Graduate Council will serve as the first reading of such action for the Faculty Senate and must be submitted to the full Faculty Senate in writing at least one week prior to a second (final) reading by the Senate.*

*The **Graduate Council** reports to the Faculty Senate and is charged with evaluating and making recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding (1) all new graduate programs (majors, degrees, certificates and the like) proposed by any major academic unit of the University; (2) major revisions to existing programs (such as a change in major designation or the addition of a major or concentration); and (3) new graduate academic programs or revisions to such programs that originate from units other than major academic units. The primary concern of the Council shall be consistency of the proposed program with applicable University-wide and external accreditation guidelines and regulations including admission criteria and procedures, potential impact of the program on other established graduate programs in the University, and financial implications of such new or revised program. Joint programs including School of Law are subject to this review. All programs exclusively to the School of Law are not.*

The Office of Graduate Programs and Academic Outreach will collaborate with the Office of Institutional Research to provide appropriate data regarding graduate programs, respond to requests for information, and assume other administrative duties deemed appropriate by the Graduate Council, Faculty Senate, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The Office of Graduate Programs and Academic Outreach also will collaborate with Enrollment Management on generating information on student recruitment, financial aid, and graduation.

G. Faculty, Presidential, and Advisory Committees will be organized as follows:

Faculty committees - including, but not limited to, the Research Committee, Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, Promotion and Tenure Standards Committee, Honors Advisory Board

1. *Faculty committees - including, but not limited to, the Research Committee, Interdisciplinary Studies Committee, Promotion and Tenure Standards Committee, Honors Advisory Board, and General Education Committee - will be structured as standing committees of the Faculty Senate, with membership consisting of faculty elected by the academic units. Students or staff might also be added to these committees at the discretion of the Faculty Senate. Faculty committees will report their actions to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate has the right to receive, review, remand, approve, or disapprove recommendations from these committees. Changes to the charge or membership structure of these committees will be made by action of the Faculty Senate.*
2. *Other University Committees are Presidential Committees and Advisory Committees*

H. Each Faculty Committee shall elect a chair from among its own members

Rationale: Financial Implications: *None*

Proposed Effective Date: *Fall 2013*

Request for Action: *Approval by AAC/.FAC/FS/ Gen Fac, etc*

Approved by: *AAC April 8, 2013*

FAC on date

Faculty Senate on date

Attachments Yes No