

MOTION FROM THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
ADDING THE ELECTED FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS TO THE
FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND DELETING THE “REPRESENTATIVES TO THE
BOARD OF REGENTS” COMMITTEE REFERENCE IN THE FACULTY HANDBOOK

At the suggestion of the Faculty Chair and the elected faculty representative to the Board of Regents, the Governance Committee, the standing faculty committee charged by the faculty with facilitating the successful operation of the entire committee system and studying matters pertaining to the system of faculty governance, has studied the Faculty Constitution, Bylaws, and other supporting documentation in the Faculty Handbook regarding the role of the elected faculty representative to the Board.

Specifically, the committee has found that the Faculty Constitution, Bylaws and supporting legislation are unclear regarding a) the membership of the elected faculty representative to the Board of Regents on the Faculty Executive Committee; b) the responsibility for coordinating the work of the three faculty representatives to the Board; and c) the status of the representatives to the Board as a separate committee.

Because communications with the Board of Regents frame its understanding of issues of importance to all faculty members, it is incumbent upon our representatives to the Board to be well informed regarding such issues. Currently, it is unclear whether the elected faculty representative to the Board does or does not sit on the Faculty Executive Committee, an important source of such information. This position is not listed in the Constitution or Bylaws among the membership on the FEC. However, page 67 of the Faculty Handbook lists the “REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS” as a committee whose membership is listed as the chair and vice-chair of the faculty as well as the elected faculty representative. It further specifies that the elected representative sit on the FEC. However, “Representatives to the Board of Regents Committee” is not listed among the faculty standing committees on p. 53, so its status is suspect. In addition, the Handbook specifies that the elected representative serves as the chair of the committee of representatives, among whose duties are “To represent faculty concerns and views to the members of the Board.” Current practice suggests, and the Governance Committee concurs, that the faculty chair is better suited to coordinate the work of the three representatives, as the faculty chair has primary responsibility for speaking to the Board in its plenary session and has a comprehensive involvement in and responsibility for faculty affairs.

Therefore, be it resolved, that Article IV, section 3, paragraph a. of the Faculty Constitution be amended as follows:

SECTION 3. Faculty Executive Committee

- a. The Faculty Executive Committee shall consist of the chair, vice-chair, and secretary of the faculty, the elected representative to the Board of Regents, the chairs of the faculty standing committees, the president, and the provost.

Be it further resolved, that Article IV, section 3, paragraph a. of the Bylaws to the Faculty Constitution be amended as follows:

SECTION 3. Faculty Executive Committee

- a. The Faculty Executive Committee shall consist of the chair, vice-chair, and secretary of the faculty, the elected representative to the Board of Regents, the chairs of the faculty standing committees, the president, and the provost.

Should these amendments pass, the Governance Committee will move at the April meeting of the faculty that the section titled “**REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS**” in the Faculty Handbook (p. 67) be struck.