

Substitute motion for Restructuring of the Executive Committee of Academic Council

1 The purpose of this substitute motion is to state as accurately as possible the recommendations
2 of Faculty Task Force #1 (TF1) as relates to proposed changes in the executive of university-
3 level governance. The goal of this substitute motion is not to alter, improve, or in any way modify
4 the content of the recommendations of TF1.¹

5 **Need for this substitute motion:** To effectively deliberate the recommendations of TF1,
6 particularly if changes are proposed from the floor of Council by amendment, a clearly stated,
7 enumerated list of the recommendations is essential as a starting point. Although language in
8 the final report of TF1 is clear enough, there is no single place in the document that lists the
9 recommendations. This substitute motion aims to fill that gap.

MOTION:

10
11 Faculty Council endorses the recommendations of Faculty Voice Task Force #1 as regards
12 the replacement of the current Executive Committee of Academic Council (ECAC) with a
13 newly defined executive called "The Steering Committee" (TSC) as described below.

14 Faculty Council refers the blueprint for TSC as described below to the *University*
15 *Committee on Academic Governance* with instruction that a package of bylaw changes
16 implementing this blueprint be developed and submitted to Faculty Council with all due
17 speed, but in no case later than April 1, 2008.

18 The characteristics of the TSC are as follows:

1. Membership of TSC

- 19
20 1.a. The number of faculty sitting on TSC will be equal to the number of university-level
21 standing committees of academic governance plus one. Any voting member of
22 Academic Senate (or the equivalent body after reorganization) will be eligible to be
23 a faculty member of TSC.
- 24 1.b. One undergraduate student will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters
25 not exclusively reserved for faculty.
- 26 1.c. One graduate student will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters not
27 exclusively reserved for faculty.
- 28 1.d. The Provost (or designee) will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters not
29 exclusively reserved for faculty.

¹ There are three exceptions. One conscious exception is that in this substitute there is no recommendation for early adoption of The Steering Committee. The reason for this omission is that it is difficult to see how having two functioning executive committees will not cause considerable confusion. The other two exceptions fill clear oversights: unspecified method of selection of undergraduate and graduate student representatives to TSC.

Substitute motion for Restructuring of the Executive Committee of Academic Council**2. Selection of TSC members/TSC Chair/Term of Office**

- 31 2.a. Faculty members on TSC will be selected by vote of all voting faculty in Academic
32 Senate (or the equivalent after reorganization). The term of office of faculty
33 members of TSC will be three years. Terms will be staggered to maintain
34 consistency. A nomination slate will be developed by a nominating committee from
35 and chosen by Faculty Council (or the equivalent after reorganization). No member
36 of the current TSC will be a member of the nominating committee. The nominating
37 committee will solicit recommendations from all faculty. A maximum lifetime total
38 years of service on TSC will be six years.
- 39 2.b. The Chairperson of TSC will be elected annually by Faculty Council (or the
40 equivalent after reorganization) from all faculty members sitting on TSC.
- 41 2.c. Should a faculty person by necessity resign from the TSC, the Faculty Council (or
42 the equivalent after reorganization) will have responsibility to fill the vacancy.
- 43 2.d. The undergraduate student member on TSC will be selected by undergraduate
44 student government (ASMSU).²
- 45 2.e. The graduate student member on TSC will be selected by graduate student
46 government (COGS).³

3. TSC Quorum

- 47 A quorum of TSC will consist of one-half of the number of faculty members sitting on
48 TSC, plus 1.⁴
49

4. Functions of TSC**4.a. Communication Functions**

- 52 i. Faculty members of TSC will form a committee replacing the current Faculty
53 Liaison to the Board of Trustees Committee. TSC responsibility will be to act as a
54 two-way bridge between faculty concerns and suggestions and the thoughts and
55 directions of the Board of Trustees. The Chairperson of TSC will attend all Board
56 of Trustee public meetings and stand ready to interact with Board members at
57 any time.
- 58 ii. TSC will implement and aggressively support communication to and from faculty.
59 Methods will include print and electronic means as well as direct interaction.

² This was not explicit in the Task Force 1 proposal.

³ This was not explicit in the Task Force 1 proposal.

⁴ The number of faculty members on TSC is equal to the number of university-level standing committees plus 1. This enables each faculty member of TSC with the exception of the Chairperson to be assigned ex-officio to one of the standing committees.

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- 60 iii. TSC will communicate regularly with the College Advisory Committees to
61 encourage and implement strong articulation between university-level and
62 college-level academic governance.
- 63 iv. TSC will meet regularly with ASMSU and COGS members for exchange of
64 information and discussion of student issues.
- 65 4.b. Administrative Functions
- 66 i. TSC collectively - and ultimately Faculty Council and Academic Council (or the
67 equivalent after reorganization) - is responsible for oversight of the committees of
68 university-level academic governance.
- 69 ii. Each faculty member of TSC except for the Chairperson will be assigned to sit
70 ex-officio on one of the standing committees of university-level governance, and
71 to report to the full TSC regularly on the operation of the standing committees,
72 including helping to coordinate and inform the agendas of the standing
73 committees.
- 74 4.c. Executive Functions
- 75 i. TSC will set the agenda for Faculty Council, Academic Council, and Academic
76 Senate (or the equivalent after reorganization).
- 77 ii. TSC will solicit input from faculty on issues of concern.
- 78 iii. TSC will make considered judgments representing the academic governance
79 system when rapid responses are required of the system but other bodies are not
80 in session.
- 81 iv. TSC will work carefully within the bylaws of academic governance in all regards
82 and will avoid making decisions precipitously when wider opinion can and should
83 be sought.
- 84 5. ***University Support for TSC members***
- 85 5.a. TSC members will be given clerical and administrative assistance from the
86 Secretary for Academic Governance that is in proportion to their needs to meet
87 their responsibilities as TSC members.
- 88 5.b. Although outside the direct control of the university-level academic governance
89 system, TSC members should receive credit in their home academic units towards
90 merit pay, tenure, and promotion that is in proportion to the TSC workload. There is
91 no provision in this recommendation for increase in base salary of TSC members.