

TSC Establishment

Motion passed by Faculty Council on 19 Feb 2008

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

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

8 The characteristics of the TSC are as follows:

9 **1. Membership of TSC**

- 10 1.a. The TSC shall be composed of 5 faculty elected at-large plus the chairpersons of
11 all of the standing committees.
- 12 1.b. One undergraduate student will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters
13 not exclusively reserved for faculty.
- 14 1.c. One graduate student will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters not
15 exclusively reserved for faculty.
- 16 1.d. The Provost (or designee) will sit ex-officio, but with voting rights on all matters not
17 exclusively reserved for faculty.

18 **2. Selection of TSC members/TSC Chair/Term of Office**

- 19 2.a. Faculty members on TSC will be selected by vote of all voting faculty in Academic
20 Senate (or the equivalent after reorganization). The term of office of faculty
21 members of TSC will be three years. Terms will be staggered to maintain
22 consistency. A nomination slate will be developed by a nominating committee from
23 and chosen by Faculty Council (or the equivalent after reorganization). No member
24 of the current TSC will be a member of the nominating committee. The nominating
25 committee will solicit recommendations from all faculty. A maximum lifetime total
26 years of service on TSC will be six years.
- 27 2.b. The Chairperson of TSC will be elected annually by Faculty Council (or the
28 equivalent after reorganization) from all faculty members sitting on TSC.
- 29 2.c. Should a faculty person by necessity resign from the TSC, the Faculty Council (or
30 the equivalent after reorganization) will have responsibility to fill the vacancy.
- 31 2.d. The undergraduate student member on TSC will be selected by undergraduate
32 student government (ASMSU).¹

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

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33 2.e. The graduate student member on TSC will be selected by graduate student
34 government (COGS).²

35 3. **TSC Quorum**

36 A quorum of TSC will consist of one-half of the number of faculty members sitting on
37 TSC, plus 1.³

38 4. **Functions of TSC**

39 4.a. Communication Functions

- 40 i. Faculty members of TSC will form a committee replacing the current Faculty
41 Liaison to the Board of Trustees Committee. TSC responsibility will be to act as a
42 two-way bridge between faculty concerns and suggestions and the thoughts and
43 directions of the Board of Trustees. The Chairperson of TSC will attend all Board
44 of Trustee public meetings and stand ready to interact with Board members at
45 any time.
- 46 ii. TSC will implement and aggressively support communication to and from faculty.
47 Methods will include print and electronic means as well as direct interaction.
- 48 iii. TSC will communicate regularly with the College Advisory Committees to
49 encourage and implement strong articulation between university-level and
50 college-level academic governance.
- 51 iv. TSC will meet regularly with ASMSU and COGS members for exchange of
52 information and discussion of student issues.

53 4.b. Administrative Functions

- 54 i. TSC collectively - and ultimately Faculty Council and Academic Council (or the
55 equivalent after reorganization) - is responsible for oversight of the committees of
56 university-level academic governance.

57 4.c. Executive Functions

- 58 i. TSC will set the agenda for Faculty Council, Academic Council, and Academic
59 Senate (or the equivalent after reorganization).
- 60 ii. TSC will solicit input from faculty on issues of concern.

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

³ 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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- 61 iii. TSC will make considered judgments representing the academic governance
62 system when rapid responses are required of the system but other bodies are not
63 in session.
- 64 iv. TSC will work carefully within the bylaws of academic governance in all regards
65 and will avoid making decisions precipitously when wider opinion can and should
66 be sought.

67 5. *University Support for TSC members*

- 68 5.a. TSC members will be given clerical and administrative assistance from the
69 Secretary for Academic Governance that is in proportion to their needs to meet
70 their responsibilities as TSC members.
- 71 5.b. Although outside the direct control of the university-level academic governance
72 system, TSC members should receive credit in their home academic units towards
73 merit pay, tenure, and promotion that is in proportion to the TSC workload. There is
74 no provision in this recommendation for increase in base salary of TSC members.

75 6. *Procedure for Recall of TSC Members*

76 The Steering Committee members are subject to recall under the following provisions.

- 77 6.a. Recall proceedings against a TSC member can be initiated in either of two ways:
- 78 i. by a petition of 20% of the voting membership of Academic Senate, or
- 79 ii. by majority vote of Faculty Council.
- 80 6.b. Once recall proceedings have been successfully initiated, a recall will succeed by a
81 majority vote of Academic Senate, where the threshold number shall be one plus
82 50% of the voting membership of Academic Senate.
- 83 6.c. The recall vote will be conducted by secret ballot by procedures set by the
84 Secretary for Academic Governance. Full and open discussion of the reasons for
85 the recall as well as rebuttal by the member under recall will be arranged. Once the
86 recall proceeding is validated, the discussion of the issue and the actual vote for
87 recall will proceed in a timely manner, and in no case should last beyond one
88 month.
- 89 6.d. Procedures to fill any seat on TSC left vacant because of recall will be the same as
90 those for filling a seat left open for any other reason.
- 91 6.e. No more than two recall proceedings can proceed simultaneously.