

**Faculty Council Committee on Elections
Report
March 2011**

1. Recommended Policy to Resolve Tied Votes in Faculty Elections

We recommend that Faculty Council adopt a policy of holding a run-off election among all candidates who receive the identical highest number of votes for the same position in any given faculty election. It is not clear to us where this policy should be recorded.

2. With respect to voting rights and service eligibility of Faculty on leave, we propose the following revision to the Faculty Handbook:

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PART ONE ORGANIZATION OF THE FACULTY

II. VOTING RIGHTS

Only members of the Faculty have the right to vote on matters entailing Faculty action in the operation of the University. Members of the Faculty in retired status are nonvoting members. Members of the Faculty on leave are nonvoting members unless they choose to retain the right to vote, as specified in Part One, Section III, and Part Four, Section VI., A and B. 4.

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Rationale

The references listed in Part One, Section II specify the voting rights for Faculty on leave. Voting rights for Faculty on leave are mentioned in Part One, Section III, as is their right serve on the Faculty Grievance Committee, and so this reference should also be included.

3. With respect to the eligibility of Faculty on leave to run in elections for seats on Faculty Council, we propose the following revisions:

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PART ONE ORGANIZATION OF THE FACULTY

IV. STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY

A. The Faculty Council

3. Composition: Five members of the Faculty from each of five divisions elected by the Faculty in each division for staggered terms of three years with terms beginning immediately after spring commencement.

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4. Duties:

a. to meet in May after spring commencement as a newly-elected faculty council to elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson, and secretary from among its own members for the next Academic Year.

Deleted: Officers will assume their duties at Spring Commencement

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Rationale

Spring semester leaves end at commencement. Faculty returning from leave will be eligible serve if elected to Faculty Council as long as the term for the new Faculty Council begins after spring commencement.

- 4. With respect to the question of whether those in temporary non-faculty positions are eligible to run for seats on Faculty Council or to vote in Faculty elections, we feel that no changes to stated policies are necessary.**

- 5. The terms of Faculty Council committees, other than Faculty Council itself, are not explicitly stated, and the restrictions on eligibility for Faculty Council do not obviously extend to other committees. Although we have no specific revisions to suggest at this time, Faculty Council may wish to consider making the terms and eligibility requirements for Faculty Council committees explicit.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted by the 2010-2011 Faculty Council Committee on Elections.

Ruth Connell
Michael Eng
Gerry Guest
Frank Navratil
Tom Short, Chair
Peifang Tian