

A Proposal to Enable the Creation of Joint Governance Committees

Amend Article III F 4 of the Academic Staff Handbook to add the responsibility for approving joint governance committees to the existing responsibilities of the Academic Staff Committee.

Amend Article IV A to include the possibility of joint governance committees within the existing committee structure.

Add Article IV H to specify the procedure for creating joint governance committees.

In the following, struck-through sections of existing Handbook language are to be eliminated and bold-face sections are to be added.

Article III F 4) To appoint and recommend Staff members for University-wide committee service, including search and screen committees for administrative appointments **and to approve the creation of joint governance committees.**

Article IV A. ~~Overview of the Committee Structure~~ **The Academic Staff carries out its governance responsibilities through standing committees, subcommittees, task forces, and joint governance committees. The following provisions apply to the stand committees identified in this article.**

1) Terms of Office - The term of office shall be two years (three for Academic Staff Committee) and shall coincide with the University's fiscal year.

2) Officers - The Chair of the Academic Staff Committee shall appoint a convener to call the first meeting of the committee following elections or appointments. He or she shall, in an *ex-officio* capacity, assist in the selection of a committee chair. The chair shall call meetings as necessary and minutes shall be kept. Minutes will be sent to committee members and the Chair of the Academic Staff Committee.

3) Reporting Requirements - Mid-year and annual reports summarizing its activities during the fiscal year shall be submitted to the Chair of the Academic Staff Committee and the Secretary of the Faculty and Academic Staff.

4) Replacement of Committee Members - When a vacancy occurs on an elective committee, the person receiving the next highest votes in the last election assumes full membership until the expiration of the term. If there are no available candidates, the Academic Staff Committee shall determine, in consultation with the Leadership and Involvement Committee, whether to appoint a replacement or to authorize a special election. When a vacancy occurs on an appointive committee, the Academic Staff Committee shall, in consultation with the Leadership and Involvement Committee, appoint a replacement.

5) Eligible Voters and Committee Members - All members of the Academic Staff with fixed-term appointments of 50 percent time or more, and limited appointments under the terms of 2.03 shall be eligible to vote for and represent the academic staff at-large as Committee members.

Article IV **H. Joint Governance Committees**

Members of the Faculty, Academic Staff, or administration may propose the creation of joint governance committees. The proposal must specify a charge, or set of responsibilities, and a method of determining membership (including number, distribution, terms, and voting rights). The proposal must secure the approval of the Faculty Senate, the Academic Staff Committee, and an appropriate administrator in order to advise or act on behalf of shared governance.

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