9-14-2014

Motion to Allow Faculty Athletic Representative to Succeed him(her)self an indeterminate number of times.

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For the President, Dr. Brooks Keel

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Motion to Allow Faculty Athletic Representative to Succeed him(her)self an indeterminate number of times.

Submitted by Pat Humphrey for Brooks Keel

9/29/2014

Motion:

Amend Section 109.04 of the Faculty Handbook (Faculty Senate By-Laws), Article III, Section 5.e from "nominate one faculty member to serve as the institutional representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This appointment must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate. There shall be a one-year apprenticeship prior to becoming the institutional representative. The institutional representative shall serve a six-year term of office (a total of seven years) and may succeed himself/herself for one term. In cases where the institutional representative has been elected to office in the Southern Conference and the term of that office exceeds the six-year term, the President of the University, in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee, may extend the term of the institutional representative to coincide with the term of the elected office in the Southern Conference. Such an extension shall normally be limited to no more than two years;" to

"nominate one faculty member to serve as the institutional representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This appointment must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate. There shall be a one-year apprenticeship prior to
becoming the institutional representative. The institutional representative shall serve a six-year term of office (a total of seven years) and may succeed himself/herself. In cases where the institutional representative has been elected to office in the Sun Belt Conference and the term of that office exceeds the six-year term, the President of the University, in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee, may extend the term of the institutional representative to coincide with the term of the elected office in the Sun Belt Conference. Such an extension shall normally be limited to no more than two years;"

**Rationale:**

This motion replaces the Southern Conference with the Sun Belt Conference and removes the limitation on only one additional term. Information received indicates that this is the general practice in BCS institutions. From Dr. Keel:

"I am attaching a document (actually, two documents scanned together as one) which provides some supporting data to my request. I have hand-written page numbers at the bottom of each page and will refer to these page numbers. The first document (pages 1-2) is from the NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative Handbook, and the second document (pages 3-7) is from a NCAA FAR Study Report entitled "Roles, Responsibilities and Perspectives of NCAA Faculty Athletics Representatives". Items of special relevance are as follows:

1. On page 2, as part of a resolution from the NCAA Athletics Representatives Association, you will see recommendation 2 suggests "...no predetermined limit to the length of time that such [FAR] may serve."

2. Page 6, Table 13 of the survey, in response to the question "How long is your term as FAR?", 55% of the 80 Division I-FBS universities (our current division) indicated that their FARs do not have a fixed term.

3. Page 7, Table 14 of the survey, in response to the question "Is there a limit on the number of terms or the length of time you can serve as FAR?", 81.3% of the 80 Div. I-FBS universities replied "No".

Based on this information, it would seem that the majority of Div. I-FBS programs to not have term limits on the individual campus FAR. While I am proposing changes that would allow an individual to serve multiple 6-year terms, the Faculty Senate SEC,
followed by ratification by the entire Senate, will still have the option to nominate someone new at each 6-year interval."

Response:

Minutes: 10/8/2014:
Motion to allow the Faculty Athletic Representative to succeed him/her self an indeterminate number of times (Jim Harris, CEIT): “Amend Section 109.04 of the Faculty Handbook (Faculty Senate By-Laws), Article III, Section 5e, shall be as follows: nominate one faculty member to serve as the institutional representative to the National Collegiate Athletic Association. This appointment must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate. There shall be a one-year apprenticeship prior to becoming the institutional representative. The institutional representative shall serve a six-year term of office (a total of seven years) and may succeed himself/herself. And that’s the changes that were made once so apparently (cannot hear him well) succeed yourself once and now it could go on indefinitely, “In cases where the institutional representative has been elected to office in the Sun Belt Conference (and it was the Southern Conference) and the term of that office exceeds the six-year term, the President of the University, in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee, may extend the term of the institutional representative to coincide with the term of the elected office in the Sun Belt Conference. Such an extension shall normally be limited to no more than two years.” So the two changes were made (cannot hear him well) and we changed Southern to Sun Belt.

Pat Humphrey (COSM) Senate Moderator and SEC Chair: Is there a second to the motion? Discussion?

Ellen Hamilton (CHHS): Am I reading it right that some of these changes are actually driven by Sun Belt regulations? That was kind of my reading on it; being a Sun Belt athletic representative has been kind of an ongoing person who is familiar with Sun Belt regulations.

Brooks Keel (President): That’s essentially the case. There was no policy is Sun Belt is driving this, but the vast majority practices in all of the FBS institutions is that the individual can serve multiple terms. Incidentally, Chris Geyerman apologized for not being here today he had class today, so he wasn’t here to discuss this motion and he is more than willing to serve an additional term in this position. I had asked the SEC to
present this and I certainly appreciate them doing this. The main thing here is that if you have someone who serves in this role and does a good job and represents you all and this university very well and you are pleased with that person you will give an opportunity to serve multiple terms. However, having said that, even with the change proposed, every six years it will come back to you for reappointment, so you will still have the option of putting someone else in that position, and not putting it in a situation where the institution can have someone serve for thirty years.

James Stephens (COPH): We had quite a discussion on this in the Senate Executive Committee. This is a very complicated position that has to be very familiar with NCAA regulations that change constantly. And the representative that we’ve had for a number of years has done an excellent job in representing not only Georgia Southern, but Athletics in general, and so with that we felt the change was necessary. And we keep a person who is highly interested in this job and well known, and well trained in NCAA regulations, which is harder than just the Sun Belt regulations.

Janice Steirn (CLASS): I think it is a good idea. I think that because we need to have one year, what is it called, apprenticeship, that we only need to make sure because somebody is like continuing to replace him or herself or whatever that we do and we may already have this, have something in place so that they need to let us know when they can have more or need to be their last six-years or whatever, so that we can get that apprenticeship in place.

Pat Humphrey (COSM) Senate Moderator and SEC Chair: We certainly know when the term is up. I guess the only issue would be the same as it is now if someone was the FAR and wanted to resign their position in the middle of a term.

Is there any discussion on this motion? Any further discussion? Okay, after consulting our Bylaws, Article V, Section 2, indicates that amending the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate requires having a motion on a regular agenda, which this has been, and also requires a two-thirds vote of those present. So in doing so, and to assure we have a two-thirds vote of those present, I am going to ask for a vote by show of hands. All those in favor, please raise your right hand. All those opposed? Motion carries. I counted one person that didn’t vote.