Alternates for Elected College Representatives to Faculty Senate Standing Committees

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Motion:

The Undergraduate Committee proposes that the Faculty Senate institute a mechanism by which an elected college representative to a Faculty Senate Standing Committee can call upon an alternate to substitute for him or her at a committee meeting.

Rationale:

During this past year, some of the elected college representatives to the Undergraduate Committee have not been able to attend meetings because of scheduling conflicts. At times the Committee was concerned that it would not have a quorum and that items before the Committee would not be reviewed by key members of the University community. Because there is a mechanism for Senators to request alternates to attend, we believe that there should also be a mechanism for elected representatives to have alternates.

Senate Response:

Phyllis Dallas’s Motion to Address Appointing Alternates to the Undergraduate Committee Dallas (CLASS) moved that a pool of Senate alternates be created for the
Undergraduate Committee because, given the critical time factor for their work, they need to assure a quorum present for each meeting. Seconded. Stone (COST) noted the same issue had arisen re: the Graduate Committee when scheduling conflicts did not allow him to attend and represent his college. He noted the SEC had dismissed his motion. Cyr (CLASS) remembered that the value of a last minute stand-in’s knowledge of business before the committee had been the deciding factor then; the critical issue of quorum has been overlooked until now, at least by Cyr. Flynn noted that not only absent senators, but absent elected faculty members was a factor to be considered. He offered an amendment to the motion to create an alternate pool that covered both groups. The amendment was seconded and approved. The amended motion was approved. The Senate Elections Committee will be charged with devising a system for a pool of alternates for committee work.