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### Bylaws changes re: committee membership and chairs

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*Approved by the Senate: 11/27/2007*

*Not Approved by the Senate*

*Approved by the President: 11/29/2007*

*Not Approved by the President*

# Bylaws changes re committee membership and chairs

Submitted by: Michael Moore

11/8/2007

## **Motion**

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That the Senate make these changes to areas of the Bylaws that concern the membership and chairs of standing

Committees:

- To III.7, add a subsection "c": "serve as chair of the Senate Elections Committee."

- From IV.2, delete the sentence "Standing committee chairs shall be elected by the voting members of the committee while ad-hoc committee chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee."

Replace the deleted sentence with the following: "The Faculty Development, Research, and Service Committees; and the Library Committee shall be chaired by the senator appointed by the Senate Executive Committee. The Elections Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Librarian. The Graduate, Undergraduate, Academic Standards, and Faculty Welfare committees shall be chaired by a senator on the committee elected by the voting members of the committee. Ad-hoc committee chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee."

- From IV.17.d, delete the phrase "to the Librarian."

- From IV. 18, dealing with the membership of the Elections Committee, delete the sentence "The committee shall be chaired by the senator." Replace this with "The committee shall be chaired by the Senate Librarian."

- To the end of the last sentences of IV.20, IV.22, IV.24, and IV.28 add the phrase "appointed by the Senate Executive Committee."

## **Rationale:**

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Regarding the chairs of Research, Service, Development, and Library committees, we have conflict in the language currently in place in the Bylaws: As that language now stands, IV.2 directs that these committees elect a senator as their chair, while the sections on the individual committees indicate that the senator appointed by the SEC must be the chair. The changes suggested in this motion seek to resolve this conflict and maintain what has been the de facto chair situation on these committees.

Regarding the Elections committee, we have run into some problems -- notably, last year one college didn't run elections at all. We need a closer tie with the Senate Executive Committee than is now afforded by the Secretary sitting on that committee as a non-voting member, so that we can try to ensure timely intervention should problems arise. The Senate gets its faculty count from the Provost's office; the Librarian already sits on the Provost's advisory council and the Senate Executive Committee, and is responsible for reporting election results in the Librarian's Report (at least, that's where the results should be reported as a matter of regular committee reporting). Making the Librarian the chair of the Elections Committee seems like a natural fit. It should also be noted that this change was recommended unanimously at a meeting of the Elections Committee, and is included here as part of this Executive Committee motion in order to coordinate it with the other recommended changes.

## **Response:**

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Minutes 11/27/2007: Motion: Bylaws changes re: committee membership and Chairs. Michael Moore for the SEC moved that the senate make the following changes to the areas of the Bylaws that concern the membership and Chairs of standing committees.

- To III.7, add a subsection "c": that says "serve as chair of the Senate Elections Committee."
- From IV.2, delete the sentence "Standing committee Chairs shall be elected by the voting members of the committee while ad-hoc committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee." Replace the deleted sentence with the following: "The Faculty Development, Research, and Service Committees; and the Library Committee shall be chaired by the senator appointed by the Senate Executive Committee. The Elections Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Librarian. The Graduate, Undergraduate, Academic Standards, and Faculty Welfare committees shall be chaired by a senator on the committee elected by the voting members of the

committee. Ad-hoc committee Chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee,” and then

- From IV.17.d, delete the phrase “to the Librarian,” and then
- From IV. 18, dealing with the membership of the Elections Committee, delete the sentence “The committee shall be chaired by the senator.” Replace this with “The committee shall be chaired by the Senate Librarian,” and
- To the end of the last sentences of IV.20, IV.22, IV.24, and IV.28 add the phrase “appointed by the Senate Executive Committee.”

Now regarding the Chairs, the Research, Service, Development, and Library Committees we had a conflict in the language currently in place in the Bylaws. That language now stands IV.2 “directs that these committees elect a Senator as their chair,” while the sections on the individual committees indicate that the Senator appointed by the SEC must be the chair. The changes suggested in this motion seek to resolve this conflict and maintain what has been the de facto chair situation on these committees, and then in terms of the Elections Committee, we had run into some problems notably last year we had some problems with elections. We needed a closer tie with the Senate Executive Committee then, and it is now afforded by Secretary sitting on that committee as a non-voting member, so what we ended up doing by having the Librarian be the chair, the Librarian, already sits on the Provost’s faculty advisory committee and also on the Senate Executive Committee and is responsible for reporting election results in the Librarian’s Report, anyway. So making the Librarian the chair of the Elections Committee seems to be a natural fit. It should also be noted that this change was recommended unanimously at a meeting of the Elections Committee, and is included here as part of this Executive Committee motion in order to coordinate it with the other recommended changes, so I move we accept this motion. After some discussion, the motion passed with one vote opposed.

## **President’s Response:**

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Dr. Grube: Following review of the recommendation adopted by the Faculty Senate at the November 27, 2007, Faculty Senate meeting, as provided in your memo of November 28, 2007, I have approved the motion below presented to the Senate by Dr. Michael Moore.

**MOTION:** That the Senate make these changes to areas of the Bylaws that concern the membership and chairs of standing committees:

- To III.7, add a subsection "c": "serve as chair of the Senate Elections Committee."

- From IV.2, delete the sentence "Standing committee chairs shall be elected by the voting members of the committee while ad-hoc committee chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee." Replace the deleted sentence with the following: "The Faculty Development, Research, and Service Committees; and the Library Committee shall be chaired by the senator appointed by the Senate Executive Committee. The Elections Committee shall be chaired by the Senate Librarian. The Graduate, Undergraduate, Academic Standards, and Faculty Welfare committees shall be chaired by a senator on the committee elected by the voting members of the committee. Ad-hoc committee chairs shall be appointed by the Senate Executive Committee."

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