MEMO

To: Senate Executive Committee
From: Jim LoBue, Chair Senate Elections Committee
Re: Senate Representation
Cc: Senate Election Committee members, Bob Haney, Dr. Barbara Price

Date: Jan 29, 2003

The purpose of this memo is to suggest that the SEC consider three items:

    1. The incorporation of the new IT College into the Faculty Senate

    2. Whether to seek to amend the Statutes to allow more than 40 Senators

    3. The precise method to be used in calculating apportionment

It is prudent at this point to consider for discussion the incorporation of the new College of Information Technology into the faculty senate in the fall semester of 2003. I believe that the appropriate way to do this is to anticipate the faculty populations that will be in effect in August and conduct our spring election according to that future apportionment. Then, in August we should conduct a special election for the new college and sit ITs new representatives along with everyone else at the September meeting.

A complication that I have discovered in attempting to work through the numbers is that the redistribution of senators affects not only the colleges that are to lose faculty members to the new college, but also the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Further, I have discovered that for some reason we have not been properly representing the units of the university, giving 2 more senators to CLASS than proper apportionment dictates.

Unfortunately, we are limited in the ways we can respond to this situation. I begin by quoting from the University Statutes:

Georgia Southern University Statutes
    ARTICLE V, Section 8
    "...Voting members of the Faculty Senate shall include forty **regular full-time members of the Corps of Instruction** holding the rank of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor who have been members of the faculty of the University for at least one year at the beginnings of their terms…"

    ARTICLE V, Section 9
    The forty members of the Faculty Senate from the **Corps of Instruction** shall be apportioned as follows.

    A. Each of the academic colleges and the library shall be represented by two senators.

    B. The remaining senators shall be apportioned to these units on the basis of the number of regular, full-time faculty in each unit.

ARTICLE I, Section 3
CORPS OF INSTRUCTION: The Corps of Instruction of Georgia Southern University will consist of full-time professors, associate professors, assistant professors, instructors, lecturers, and teaching personnel with such other titles as may be approved by the Board. Full-time research and extension personnel and duly certified librarians will be included in the Corps of Instruction on the basis of comparable training. Persons holding adjunct appointments or other honorary titles shall not be considered to be members of the faculty.

As one can see in Art. V, Sec. 8, unless we amend the Statutes to include more senators, some colleges will lose senators to accommodate representation in the new college consistent with Art. V, Sec. 9 A and B. I suggest that it is already too late for us to change the Statutes before August as our amendments must be approved by the Board of Regents AFTER it is considered by "A Committee on Revision of the Statutes," appointed by the President (Art. XII, Sec. 1 A). Amending the Statutes is a separate issue that might deserve consideration later, but for the time being, I think it is possible to correct the problems I have discovered without removing a sitting senator.

Before I discuss this, I would like to summarize for you the numbers I have used to come to my conclusions. I have put these numbers (Excel format) on my web site, which is linked from the Senate web page. Otherwise, the address is:
http://www2.gasou.edu/facstaff/jlobue/senate/apportion.html
I invite everyone to investigate and criticize my work. I would also be happy to make a live presentation of these numbers if you feel such a presentation is necessary.

Summarizing my findings, the current breakdown of representation in the Faculty Senate shows numerically that CLASS has been represented by 2 more Senators than apportionment dictates while CHHS and the Library have each been represented by 1 fewer.

Current Faculty Senate Representation				
		Senators (current)		Senators (proposed)
CHHS		5		6
CLASS		14		12
COBA		6		6
COE		5		5
COST		8		8
LIB		2		3
TOTALS		40		40

Faculty totals (found in the next table) were provided by the Provost's office and are considered to be up to date. It was necessary for me to sift and merge the contents of three files containing lists of faculty to come up with the numbers I have used in this memo. I have asked the Provost's office to check my lists for accuracy. I am also making this data available on the web (also in Excel format).

The numbers that I call "Senators (proposed)" can be calculated using faculty totals found in the next table.

Apportionment Numbers								
	Faculty Totals by Unit as of 1/24/03	Senators (current)	Appor-tionment	Frac-tional	Faculty LOST TO IT	Totals by Unit W/IT	Appor-tionment	Frac-tional
CHHS	78	5	5	5.36	0	78	5	5.05
CLASS	235	14	12	12.12	0	235	11	11.20
COBA	100	6	6	6.31	10	89	5	5.485
COE	74	5	5	5.19	0	74	5	4.90
COST	146	8	8	8.29	6	140	7	7.482
LIB	17	2	3	2.73	0	17	3	2.67
IT						31	3	3.21
TOTAL	650	40	39	40		664	39	40

 *The way it works out, COBAs fractional is actually a few "hundredths" higher than COSTs. That is why I choose not to suggest that either get the 40th Senator until the SEC looks at it. Further, one might argue that with CLASS' dramatic decline in representation we might consider, perhaps temporarily, to give the 40th to CLASS.

I have used the faculty totals found in the second column of the above table. The apportionment numbers don't add up to 40 (as they should) because the numbers were rounded. If I carry the calculations out using all of the digits Excel provides, the numbers do indeed add up to 40. Of course the last Senate seat has to be assigned, and I have assigned it to CHHS by virtue of the **greater decimal part** among the numbers **not rounded up** (that is, among 5.36, 12.12, 6.31, 5.19, and 8.29, but NOT 2.73 since the LIB has been <u>rounded up</u> to get 3 Senators). Since I have little experience with apportionment, I leave this judgment to discussion within the SEC.

The "**Fractional**" numbers in the fourth column have been calculated by dividing the total faculty in a unit by the total number of University faculty, then multiplying by 28 (each unit gets two automatically so there are only 28 seats actually up for grabs) and finally adding 2. For instance, the number for the fractional apportionment in CHHS is given by the following sample calculation.

$$\frac{78}{648} \times 28 + 2 = 5.37$$

Next, I present the numbers that are likely to describe the faculty in August 2003 including the new college. Once again I have left the apportionment of the "40th" Senator up to a future discussion. The number of senators "up for grabs" is now 26 so the formula above is adjusted. The numbers I used come courtesy of Dr. Barbara Price, Founding Director of IT. These numbers are not yet exact as quite a few external searches are still pending.   I am convinced that the IT college will require 3 senators, but because of the way the proportion works out, either COST or COBA will lose a Senator, but CLASS will definitely lose one.

Remember, the constitution and apportionment of the Senate are generally defined in the Statutes Art. V, Sec. 9. Unfortunately, the specifics of the apportionment are left open to interpretation.

To the sake of comparison, I have recalculated the apportionment the way is it done to seat members of the US House of Representatives. Instead of presenting it here and attempting an explanation I refer the reader to the US Census Bureau web site:
http://www.census.gov/population/www/censusdata/apportionment.html
The results of this calculation along with the ones above are available for download from my web site linked from the Faculty Senate web site. In this calculation, CLASS is affected even more than is suggested in this memo.

Finally, it is my conclusion that CLASS stands to be affected most in the next election. But that doesn't mean that the imbalance in representation cannot be corrected easily. If we use the simple direct proportional method for apportionment, the representation by CLASS would be 12 Senators. Since 5 CLASS Senate seats come up for election this year we might simply elect 3. No sitting Senator need be deposed. If we decide, in addition, to elect Senators according to a 7 unit university, then CLASS would elect 2 Senators this spring to bring its number to 11. As for the other colleges, I would suggest that they choose to elect the smallest number of Senators comparing all possible scenarios. Usually there are plenty of alternates elected along with a contingent of Senators. It is easier, I think, to elevate an alternate to the Senate than it is to remove a sitting Senator. This might even be the best course of action given the current uncertainty in the faculty population of the IT College.