

University Senates Conference

Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.a (2)

Background

At its April 25, 2006 meeting, the University Senates Conference (USC) proposed revisions to the *Statutes* that would eliminate term limits for service on the USC. It was felt that active participation on USC had a steep learning curve and that assumption of leadership roles on the committee were being limited by the existence of arbitrary term limits. Also, it was felt that each of the faculty senates should not be limited in choosing individuals to serve on USC.

Recommendations

The USC recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Statutes*. Text to be deleted is in [square brackets] and text to be added is underlined.

Article II. Legislative Organization

Section 2. University Senates Conference

a. Organization

- (1) The University Senates Conference shall be made up of twenty members. The basic representation shall be two members from each senate. Additional members shall be apportioned to each senate, at least one from each senate, in numbers proportional to the number of faculty members on each campus. The apportionment shall be recalculated every five years. Each senate shall elect its own representatives from its membership.
- (2) Senators whose senatorial terms expire before their conference terms expire shall complete their conference terms. Any faculty senator or faculty senator-elect shall be eligible for election to the conference [except that no member shall serve more than two full terms consecutively]. The term of office shall be three years beginning on the first day of the next academic year following the election. Approximately one-third of the conference members from each senate shall be elected annually.
- (3) A quorum for conference meetings shall consist of a simple majority of the total membership of the conference. If a quorum cannot be obtained otherwise, the conference members from a senate may designate as many as two alternates from the faculty members of their own senate to serve at a specific meeting.
- (4) The conference officers shall be a chair and a vice chair, who shall be elected for one-year terms by and from the conference and shall not be from the same senate. The chair shall not be from the same senate in two consecutive years.
- (5) The executive committee of the conference shall consist of two members from each senate: the conference chair, the conference vice chair, and four additional members elected annually by and from the conference. The conference may authorize the executive committee to act on behalf of the conference between scheduled meetings.