PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATUTES, ARTICLE X

(Text to be deleted is in [square brackets] and text to be added is underlined.)

Section 2. Academic Freedom

a. Academic freedom includes the freedom to teach, both in and outside the classroom, to conduct research and to publish the results of those investigations. The practice of shared governance that structures institutional decision-making depends on the right of a member of the faculty, or an academic staff member directly engaged in teaching or research, to address any matter of institutional policy or action, whether or not as a member of an agency of institutional governance, without fear of retaliation. This right is a core aspect of academic freedom.

[a.] b. It is the policy of the University to maintain and encourage full freedom within the law of inquiry, discourse, teaching, research, and publication and to protect any member of the academic staff against influences, from within or without the University, which would restrict the member’s exercise of these freedoms in the member’s area of scholarly interest, as well as to maintain full freedom of discourse regarding University policies and actions whether or not uttered as a member of an agency of institutional governance. The right to the protection of the University shall not, however, include any right to the services of the university counsel or the counsel’s assistants in any governmental or judicial proceedings in which the academic freedom of the staff member may be an issue.

[b.] c. [As a citizen, a faculty member may exercise the same freedoms as other citizens without institutional censorship or discipline.] Members of the faculty, and academic staff members who are directly engaged in teaching or research, have the freedoms identified in Article X, Section 2.a above and have the freedom to speak to any matter of social, political, economic, or other interest to the larger community. International members of the faculty, and academic staff shall enjoy these same freedoms. [A faculty member should be mindful, however, that accuracy, forthrightness, and dignity befit association with the University and a person of learning and that the public may judge that person’s profession and the University by the individual’s conduct and utterances.]

[c.] d. All the rights enumerated in sections X.2. a, b and c above are subject to the applicable standards of academic conduct. Further, a member of the faculty, and any academic staff member, should be mindful that accuracy, forthrightness, and dignity befit association with the University and a person of learning and that the public may judge that person’s profession and the University by the individual’s conduct and utterances. If, in the president’s judgment, a [faculty] member of the faculty, or academic staff who is directly engaged in teaching or research, exercises freedom of expression as a citizen and] fails to heed these admonitions of Article X, Section 2[b], the president may publicly disassociate the Board of Trustees and the University from and express their disapproval of such objectionable expressions.

[d.] e. A [staff] member of the faculty, or an academic staff member directly engaged in teaching or research, who believes that he or she does not enjoy the academic freedom which it is the policy of the University to maintain and encourage shall be entitled to a hearing on written request before the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure of the appropriate campus senate. Such
hearing shall be conducted in accordance with established rules of procedure. The committee shall make findings of facts and recommendations to the president and, at its discretion, may make an appropriate report to the senate. The several committees may from time to time establish their own rules of procedure.