

Revision of Section 2.43.03.240 of the General Education Program Statute

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors revise section 2.43.03.240 of the General Education Program statute. This section is related to the General Education Oversight Committee membership. This change is effective immediately.

Background

The current General Education Oversight Committee membership was established by the Board at the recommendation of the Provost as part of the General Education program reform adopted on November 10, 2017. This year, as part of a continuing review, the Academic Senate Policy Committee and Provost's Office recognized that the committee membership as adopted was somewhat unbalanced because there is no provision for a faculty co-chair, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) is underrepresented, and the selection and role of the Academic Senate representatives is not clear. Accordingly, a revised membership is recommended for adoption that provides for a faculty co-chair elected from amongst the members, recognizes CLAS's significant role in General Education, and provides for two (2) voting representatives of the Academic Senate (a tenured faculty member and an ESS academic staff person) that will provide a university-wide perspective on General Education.

Prior to the 2017 reform, CLAS held 50% of the school and college voting positions on the committee—i.e., 8 out of the 16 school and college voting representatives. The change adopted last year reduced the CLAS representation to four (4) without changing other school and college representation. That reduction took place very late in the development of the statutory changes and was not fully discussed. This revision increases CLAS representation to six (6) in recognition of the centrality of the liberal arts and sciences to the General Education program, as evidenced by the fact that in fall 2018 CLAS taught about 84% of the General Education credit hours for the entire University across the many critical disciplines within CLAS (humanities, social sciences, physical sciences and life sciences).

Current Statute Language

2.43.03.240 The GEOC will be representative of the University community as a whole as follows: One (1) representative each from the colleges of Business Administration, Education, Engineering, Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and Social Work; two (2) representatives from the college of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts; four (4) representatives from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; one (1) member of the Academic staff with Student Advising responsibilities; one (1) representative, ex officio, from the University Libraries; one (1) representative, ex officio, from the Academic Senate. The committee shall decide the number of student representatives.

Recommended Statute Language

2.43.03.240 The GEOC will be representative of the University community as a whole as follows: One (1) representative each from the colleges of Business, Education, Engineering, Nursing, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and Social

Work; two (2) representatives from the College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts; six (6) representatives from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; two (2) representatives selected by the Academic Senate (one (1) tenured faculty member and one (1) ESS Academic Staff member); and one (1) representative, ex officio, from the University Libraries. The committee shall elect a co-chair from amongst the voting members, and the Associate Provost shall serve, ex officio, as a co-chair. The committee shall decide the number of student representatives.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Adopted ____; Official Proceedings ____; Prior Acts: Official Proceedings 49: (2 March 2005); 30:4116 (9 May 1986); (10 November 2017)