GENERAL LEGISLATIVE ACTION

At its meeting on May 16, 2019, the Faculty Senate approved legislation that would amend the Faculty Code related to changes to membership for elected faculty councils. These changes have been approved at every step of the legislative process. The Faculty Council on Faculty Affairs has developed and approved this legislation.

Please vote by June 7, 2019.

Proposed Legislation

This proposed legislation amends the UW Faculty Code on membership for elected faculty councils.

Rationale

In response to a request from the Senate Executive Committee, the Advisory Committee on Faculty Code and Regulations (ACFCR) conducted a review of the Faculty Code and the bylaws of the University's 27 campuses, colleges, and schools concerning the composition of elected faculty councils.

In its resulting March 6, 2018 report, ACFCR found:

- The Faculty Code does not explicitly bar administrators from EFC membership;
- The Faculty Code does not explicitly require EFC members be elected by the voting faculty; and
- The bylaws of some units are inconsistent with Section 23-45 or its intent, allowing administrators to nominate or appoint EFC members or to be voting members themselves.

The following proposed changes to Section 23-45 aim to clarify that only voting faculty may be voting members of EFCs and that administrators should not have a formal role in nominating or electing EFC members.

Counter Argument to Proposals

In smaller units, restricting eligibility might overly limit the total number of faculty eligible to serve on councils. In addition, some administrators may be more involved and effective to the advisory process if they are able to vote on the council.

Proposed Amendments to the Faculty Code:
(Additions are underlined; deletions are struck through)

University of Washington
Faculty Code and Governance
Faculty Code Chapter 23

Section 23-45  Campus, College, and School Faculties: Authority to Determine Organization and Procedure

A. Subject to the provisions of Section 23-46, the faculty of each campus, college, or school other than the Graduate School shall determine its own organization and rules of procedure except as stipulated in Subsections B and C of this section. The organization and rules of procedure of a department may be determined by the department faculty, but shall be subject to review by the appropriate campus, school, or college faculty.

B. The University of Washington Bothell and the University of Washington Tacoma shall each have an elected faculty council or councils that shall advise their respective chancellors on matters affecting the general welfare of their respective campuses, matters of faculty promotion and
tenure, and on matters involving academic policy, including priorities, resource and salary allocation, and budgets. In accord with Subsection A, the faculty of each campus shall determine for itself the organization and structure of its council or councils and the procedure by which the members are elected, subject to the provisions of Subsection D below.

C. Each school or college shall have an elected faculty council or councils which shall advise the dean on matters of faculty promotion and tenure, and advise the dean on matters involving academic policy, including priorities, resource and salary allocation, and budgets. In accord with Subsection A, the faculty of each school or college shall determine for itself the organization and structure of its council or councils and the procedure by which the members are elected, subject to the provisions of Subsection D below.

D. Every elected faculty council of a campus, school, or college shall be subject to the following provisions.

1. Voting members of elected faculty councils must be voting members of the faculty, elected by the voting faculty of their respective units;
2. Chancellors, vice chancellors, deans, associate deans, and directors or chairs of departments may not appoint or propose members to elected faculty councils;
3. Chancellors, vice chancellors, deans, associate deans, and directors or chairs of departments may not be voting members of their respective elected faculty councils, but they may be non-voting ex-officio members.
4. The chair of each elected faculty council must be a voting member of the council, and shall set the agendas and preside over meetings.
5. Notwithstanding the provisions of 1 through 4 above, anyone who is a member of an elected faculty council on June 15, 2019 with a fixed term of office may serve to the end of that term.

E. The Advisory Committee on Faculty Code and Regulations shall review each campus's, college's, or school's procedure to assure that the councils are established in conformity with the provisions of this section.

F. The Graduate School shall determine its own organization and rules of procedure. It may directly control its affairs or may delegate to a council, executive committee, or other committees any of its powers, provided that such council or committees shall be representative of the various fields of graduate study.

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
April 1, 2019

Approved by:
Faculty Senate
April 18, 2019

Approved by:
Senate Executive Committee
May 6, 2019

Approved by:
Faculty Senate
May 16, 2019