


To: Douglas Call, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Senate

Matt Hudelson, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary, Faculty Senate

From: Tammy D. Barry, Ph.D. 
Co-chair, Research and Arts Committee

Date: February 15, 2022

RE: Committee Composition for RAC

On behalf of my Research and Arts Committee (RAC) co-chair, Dr. Jeb Owen, and the rest of the RAC members, I am writing to inform you that the Research and Arts Committee has voted to approve a change to our committee composition. Specifically, we voted to reduce our graduate student members from three seats to one seat. The graduate student member would remain a full voting member of the RAC.

The rationale for this change is based on difficulty filling the graduate student seats on the committee after a change several years ago to increase them. We wanted to maintain a graduate student voice on the committee; thus, all were in favor of keeping one seat. The discussion about this change took place during our January 26, 2022 meeting and included a graduate student committee member. We subsequently voted electronically between the dates of February 10 and February 15, 2022. The committee was in support of the change by a vote of 13 (affirmative) to 0 (opposed).

Based on this vote, we propose the language changes on **page 2** of this memo regarding the RAC composition.

We ask that this item be placed on the Faculty Senate agenda for Thursday, February 17th as a Discussion item.

Clean Copy:

Proposed changes to the RAC composition and tenure:

Composition and tenure

- Twelve faculty, at least one of whom shall be a senator (normally), with one from each of the degree-granting colleges, and three from the College of Arts and Sciences representing life and physical sciences, social sciences, and humanities and arts: (F)
- **One graduate student with a one-year term (renewable).** (G)
- Vice president of research and director of Office of Research Support and Operations. (#)(X)

Also, in order to accommodate the proposed change to the composition of the Research and Arts Committee, the following insertion to the language in the Committee Manual is proposed:

With the exception of the Budget Committee, the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Research and Arts Committee, the Committee on Committees, and the Steering Committee, there must be student representation equivalent in number to at least twenty-five percent of the voting faculty members.

Red-lined:

Proposed changes to the RAC composition and tenure:

It is proposed to amend the “Composition and tenure” language for the Research and Arts Committee as follows:

Composition and tenure

- Twelve faculty, at least one of whom shall be a senator (normally), with one from each of the degree-granting colleges, and three from the College of Arts and Sciences representing life and physical sciences, social sciences, and humanities and arts: (F)
- ~~Three graduate students, with one-year terms~~ **One graduate student with a one-year term** (renewable). (G)
- Vice president of research and director of Office of Research Support and Operations. (#)(X)

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