

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Senate Reapportionment

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The Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Senate Reapportionment met to recommend a reapportionment of the Faculty Senate. It first considered the policies found in the Faculty Handbook. The rules for apportioning the Senate are stated in section 10.2.1 of the Faculty Handbook:

"The Faculty Senate shall consist of 50 members of the Regular Faculty. The senators shall be elected to three-year terms in the degree recommending divisions of the University. The electors shall consist of members of the Regular Faculty. Full-time administrative personnel above the department level shall be excluded from elections of the Faculty Senate.

In the Faculty Senate, seats shall be allocated as follows: one seat to each degree-recommending division with at least one percent of the total faculty. Members of the Regular Faculty who are not members of a degree-recommending division of the University, or who are in a degree-recommending division with less than one percent of the total faculty, shall be treated as a separate division. The balance of the seats will be allocated among faculty members placed in this separate division according to a triennial apportionment proposed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the Regular Faculty. Degree-recommending divisions with no faculty members will be allowed to appoint a faculty member as an ex-officio member with all the rights and privileges of senate membership excluding the right to vote in official Faculty Senate actions."

Recommended Reapportionment

The Committee followed a number of past practices. Included in the faculty count are renewable term appointments at the Assistant Professor level and above and part-time faculty at the Assistant Professor level and above, term or tenured/tenure-track, according to their FTE. For faculty who are budgeted in non-degree organizations, we allocated as many of them as possible to their home departments (where they hold tenured or tenure-track appointments). They should, therefore, vote for their Senate representation with their academic department. The "Total" column in the table provides the total number of faculty in each unit when applying the above method of counting faculty.

There are 63.8 faculty in non-degree recommending divisions who do not have joint appointments. That number represents 6.13 percent of the total faculty and entitles them to about six percent of the total numbers of Senators, or three Senators. Following both tradition and being justified by their numbers we recommend allocating one seat, each, to the Library and ROTC faculties. Four faculty members in non-degree recommending divisions as well as the faculties of Liberal Studies, Honors, and Aviation are left. We recommend they share that last seat.

We recommend the remaining 47 seats be allocated using a proportional method. Rounding led to complications when trying to use a direct approach because it produced 49 seats (plus the three previously allocated for a total of 52). So the committee used the “Webster Method” of allocating seats. It basically gives each unit its whole number of seats and then allocates the remaining seats to the largest remaining fraction until all seats are allocated. The specific recommendation of the committee is found in the column labeled “Recommended Allocation” in the attached table.

The committee considered alternative allocation formulae. Specifically, we had a request to consider a formula that would be based on the rate of representation. That rate varies substantially due to the relatively small number of both faculty and seats. For example, International Studies has a rate of 8.42 percent (meaning that 8.42 percent of their faculty will serve in the Senate) while other colleges hover as low as about 3-4 percent.¹ If we had used this method, the colleges of Earth and Energy and Fine Arts would each lose a seat and Architecture and Business would each gain a seat.

The committee also considered a method that literally averages the two types of rankings. That method led, again, to the colleges of Earth and Energy and Fine Arts each losing a seat and Engineering and Architecture each gaining a seat.

¹ That disparity is due to the small number of faculty in International Studies but they do have a large enough number to cross the one percent threshold outlined in the Faculty Handbook, which entitles them to a seat.

All three methods considered by the committee are intellectually defensible. We opted for the Webster method, in part, because it is more commonly used and generally perceived to produce the least bias. For a discussion, see: <http://www.brookings.edu/research/papers/2001/08/politics-young>. But, most convincing to the committee is the argument that the Faculty Senate has been apportioned using this method for as long as anyone can remember and absent a policy decision made above the committee's level we felt we should follow tradition.

In conclusion, the Committee recommends the allocations in the table for the three years beginning with academic year 2013-2014.

**Ranked Instructional (Regular) Faculty by College
and Recommended Apportionment for Faculty Senate
For 2014-17**

College/Division	Total	% of FTE	% of 976.79 x 47	2010 alloc	Base		Rank	Recommended Allocation
					Alloc 2013	Fraction Over Base Fraction		
Architecture	33.00	3.17%	1.5879	2	1	0.5879	7	1
Arts and Sciences	482.71	46.39%	23.2265	23	23	0.2265	9	23
Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences	39.75	3.82%	1.9126	1	1	0.9126	2	2
Business	52.00	5.00%	2.5021	3	2	0.5021	8	2
Earth and Energy	36.45	3.50%	1.7539	2	1	0.7539	5	2
Education	59.50	5.72%	2.8629	3	2	0.8629	3	3
Engineering	103.50	9.95%	4.9801	5	4	0.9801	1	5
Fine Arts	97.00	9.32%	4.6673	5	4	0.6673	6	5
International Studies	11.88	1.14%	0.5716	1	1	-0.4284	11	1
Journalism & Mass Comm	24.00	2.31%	1.1548	1	1	0.1548	10	1
Law	37.00	3.56%	1.7803	1	1	0.7803	4	2
Graduate College				0				
TOTAL Non-Pool Faculty (FTE)	976.79	93.87%	46.9344					
TOTAL Non-Pool Seats	47.00			47	41			47
POOLED PROGRAMS								
Honors	11.30	11.30	1.09%	1	1			1 (Includes faculty in Liberal Studies, Aviation and without a home department)
Liberal Studies	6.50	6.50	0.62%	1				
CCE Aviation	1.00	1.00						
President	1.00	1.00						
Provost Direct		2.00						
Art Museum	1.00	1.00						
Blankenship Chair	1.00							
Carl Albert Center	3.00	0.00						
Okla. Mus. of Nat. Hist.	4.95	0.00						
World Literature Today	1.00	0.00						
Provost Office Admin.	2.40	1.00						
Writing Center		1.00						
Research Administration	0.93							
Library	27.00	27.00	2.59%	1	1			1
ROTC	14.00	14.00	1.35%	1	1			
TOTAL Pooled Faculty (FTE)	63.80	6.13%	3.0656					1
TOTAL Pooled Seats	3.00				3.00			
Total Full-Time-Equivalent Instructional Facu	1040.59		93.9344	98				