UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO AMEND FACULTY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES 4.10. DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES: MEMBERSHIP

Background

UW-Madison Faculty Policies and Procedures 4.10. defines rules of election to divisional executive committees (www.secfac.wisc.edu/governance/fpp/Chapter_4.htm#410).

With these current rules, faculty members with tenure homes in more than one department are often ineligible for election to divisional executive committees because often a colleague in one of their two departments is already serving. Such faculty are thus infrequently able to serve the university in this important capacity.

While there are fewer than 100 faculty members on our campus who have tenure homes in more than one department, that number has increased with cluster hires and the increased interdisciplinarity of the research enterprise. It is important that those faculty have an opportunity to serve on the divisional executive committees.

Recommendation

All four divisional executive committees have voted to approve the proposed revision to FPP 4.10., which was prepared by the Physical Sciences Divisional Executive Committee. The proposal modifies the rules of election to make it easier for faculty with tenure homes in more than one department to serve on divisional executive committees. The amendment attempts to continue to ensure that one department will not have disproportionate representation on the committee.

The University Committee recommends approval of the proposed revision.

Proposed revision

4.10. DIVISIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES: MEMBERSHIP.

A. STRUCTURE. Each divisional executive committee shall consist of at least twelve members elected by the divisional faculty. The specific size of the membership and organizational structure of the committee shall be determined by the faculty of the division. Where there is a separation of functions among subcommittees within a particular divisional executive committee, no fewer than twelve members shall provide the tenure review function. No more than two members of each committee/subcommittee shall have tenure in the same department. The total tenure appointments of members from a single department shall not exceed 150%. Members of each committee/subcommittee shall be elected for staggered three-year terms and may not succeed themselves on that particular committee/subcommittee. Faculty shall not serve concurrently on more than one divisional committee/subcommittee (this provision does not apply to overlapping bodies created to coordinate committees/subcommittees). Individuals are eligible for re-election to a particular committee/subcommittee after two years.

B. ELECTIONS. Executive committees make and administer rules for the nomination and election of their own members.

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C. ELIGIBILITY. Professors and associate professors eligible to vote in a division may serve on its executive committee.

D. VACANCIES. A member of an executive committee who is unable to serve for two consecutive semesters during his/her term of office shall be replaced in a way to be provided for by a standing rule of that executive committee.

E. CHAIR. Each executive committee shall annually elect one of its members chair. He/she shall report annually to the divisional faculty.