MOTION

Revising the T&R Faculty Handbook to Change Composition of College Curriculum Committees

Referred by: Governance Committee

Motion
The Faculty Senate recommends that the Teaching and Faculty Research Handbook be changed to limit the representation of the Dean, Associate, and Assistant Deans on College Curriculum Committees as follows:

Original Wording

4.1.3.3 College Curriculum Committee
Membership: College Dean, Associate and/or Assistant Dean(s), two students with majors in the college, and one faculty member elected by each department in the college (and each school without departments, if applicable). Chaired by a member elected by the committee, this body reviews and approves course and curriculum proposals and revisions in the major and minor academic programs in the college. All proposals and revisions approved shall be forwarded to the Undergraduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee, and, if affecting general education, to the General Education Curricular Advisory Committee and the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty Senate; and/or, if affecting graduate curricula, to the Graduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee. Minutes of the committee’s meetings shall be made available to all faculty in the college and sent to the Provost.

Revised Wording

4.1.3.3 College Curriculum Committee
Membership: College Dean, Associate and/or Assistant Dean(s), (or her/his designee), two students with majors in the college, and one faculty member elected by each department in the college (and each school without departments, if applicable). Chaired by a member elected by the committee, this body reviews and approves course and curriculum proposals and revisions in the major and minor academic programs in the college. All proposals and revisions approved shall be forwarded to the Undergraduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee, and, if affecting general education, to the General Education Curricular Advisory Committee and the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty Senate; and/or, if affecting graduate curricula, to the Graduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee. Minutes of the committee’s meetings shall be made available to all faculty in the college and sent to the Provost.

A College may elect to have a single College Curriculum Committee that considers curricular issues related to both graduate and undergraduate programs, or to have a separate Graduate College Curriculum Committee. If a College elects to have a Graduate College Curriculum Committee, the membership will be composed of the College Dean (or her/his designee), two graduate students in the college, and one graduate faculty member elected by each department in the college (and each school without departments, if applicable). Chaired by a member elected by the committee, this body reviews and approves course and curriculum proposals and revisions to the graduate programs in the college. All proposals and revisions approved shall be forwarded to the Graduate Curriculum and Catalog Review Committee. Minutes of the committee’s meetings shall be made available to all faculty in the college and sent to the Provost.

Rationale

Given that multiple representatives from the Dean’s office are permitted, and given that the number of representatives from the Dean’s office is not limited in any way, there could be an equal or greater number of non-faculty members serving on the committee than faculty members. For example, in COBE, there are only four departments and thus four faculty members on the College Curriculum Committee. With two students, one Dean, and one Associate Dean, faculty no longer have a majority on the College Curriculum Committee.
As currently written, the policy allows for an unlimited number of representatives from the Dean’s office on the committee ("College Dean, Associate and/or Assistant Dean(s)"). We propose limiting the number of representatives from the Dean’s office to one: the Dean or her/his designee.

At least one college (COBE) already has a separate Graduate College Curriculum Committee. The additional language merely adds this option to the T&R Faculty Handbook language.