

Potential Revision to Bylaws

The following text would replace what is now section 4 in Appointments, Vacancies and Election of Chair-Elect of the current bylaws:

Every two years, the Curriculum Committee will hold an election for the Chair position.

Whenever an election year arrives, the Academic Senate will post the job description for the Curriculum Committee Chair and for the Chair-Elect, including the amount of release time provided. These descriptions shall be posted no later than October 31st.

The Curriculum Committee will accept applications for Chair from current or past members of the committee, and no one else, up until the last meeting of the fall semester. If one or more current or past members apply for the Chair position by that deadline, then no more applications will be accepted.

If no current or past member of the committee applies for the Chair position by the deadline, then at that point the Committee will accept applications from any faculty member (including any current or former committee member who missed the fall deadline, but then subsequently wishes to apply). Such applications would be due February first of the election year.

On the last meeting in February of the election year, the Committee will elect, from among those individuals whose

applications it accepted, one individual to be Chair. The election will be by majority vote on a secret ballot.

If the individual elected to be Chair is already serving in that role, then they will continue to serve in that role for another two years. In the second of those two years, it will again be time to hold an election for Chair. The individual in question will be barred from applying for that position, unless authorized to do so by the Academic Senate.

If the individual elected to be Chair is not already serving in that role, then in the year immediately following they will serve as Chair-Elect, while the current Chair will continue to serve as Chair. The two will co-chair the committee during that year. In the year after that, the Chair-Elect will become the Chair, and will chair the committee on their own.

Items for discussion:

1. In the version of the bylaws that I'm proposing, a current or former member who misses the initial deadline to apply is not barred from applying after that point. I think the current version of our bylaws is ambiguous on that point. It could be read as saying that such a person could not apply if they miss the original deadline, or it could be read as saying that they still could.
2. The current version of the bylaws says that the election should be held "within the first two months of the spring

semester.” In the proposed version, I specified the last meeting in February. Is that ok?

3. If we adopt this new language, we should also change the title for the relevant part of the bylaws to, “Appointments, Vacancies, and Election of Chair,” I think.