

College of Arts and Sciences Addendum to the By-Laws

1/5/17

Faculty Senate Representation in the College of Arts and Science.

Background

The recently approved College By-Laws require that an addendum titled “Faculty Senate Representation in the College of Arts and Sciences” be drafted and approved by the majority of voting faculty in the College.

The Faculty Handbook requires that the College be represented by a number of Senators determined as a fraction of 63 in proportion to the number of faculty in the College, currently 16 Senators, with two alternates.

Prior to 2004 the College was represented by Senators elected “at large”. The 2004 amendments to the By-Laws introduced a system of proportional representation where departments were identified separately, or in groups, to elect one Senator for approximately 27 faculty. Large single departments such as History or Physics elected one Senator, and Biology and E&PS were grouped together to elect two Senators, while smaller departments such as Linguistics, SHS, and American Studies were grouped together to elect one Senator. Over time, as we have increased the size of the College faculty, as well as added departments, the system as described does not maintain proportional representation.

The flow of information from Faculty Senators is two-way. Senators must communicate with faculty in order to represent their views and concerns in the Senate, as well as report back to faculty regarding important issues. This may be done in faculty meetings, however the large number of Senators representing more than one department suggests that each person either must attend multiple faculty meetings, or combined faculty meetings must be held, both of which seem unlikely. Consequently, it would be better to explore other opportunities or venues where faculty can communicate regularly with Senators. This could include meetings in person, and electronic communications taking the form of “office hours” or forums.

Faculty Senators representing the College of Arts and Sciences should meet, and may form a caucus if desired. They will discuss and decide how they will communicate with the faculty they represent.

Faculty Senate Representation

Departments within each cluster are grouped such that faculty counts are as close to multiples of 30 as possible. Currently this would create the following groups:

Humanities less SHS (156 faculty), 5 Senators

History (31 faculty), 1 Senator

American Studies (11) + FLL (21) = 32, 1 Senator

Philosophy (13) + Span/Port (17) + CCS (3) = 33, 1 Senator
Linguistics (15) + English (45) = 60, 2 Senators

Social Sciences less SPA(152), 5 Senators

Geography (10) + Economics (20) = 30, 1 Senator

Anthro (28) + Psychology (33) = 61, 2 Senators

PoliSci (17) + Sociology (20) + C&J (24) = 61, 2 Senators

Physical Science and Math + SHS + SPA (184), 6 Senators

Physics (32), 1 Senator

SHS (12) + E&PS (21) = 32, 1 Senator

Chemistry (24) + Math (36) = 60, 2 Senators

SPA (12) + Biology (48) = 60, 2 Senators