

25 September 1998

MEMORANDUM

TO Members, University Senate

FROM University Senate Council

RE AGENDA ITEM: University Senate Meeting, Monday, 12 October 1998 at 3:00 PM. Amendments to University Senate Rules, Section I - 1.2.2 and following. Proposal to convey voting rights in the University Senate to the President of SGA and proposal to change *ex officio* membership on the Senate. If approved, the proposals will be forwarded to the Administration for appropriate modifications in the Governing Regulations. The final proposal is to convey voting rights on the Senate Council to the President of SGA and to clarify voting status of the faculty members of the Board of Trustees on the Senate Council.

Proposals: (delete materials in brackets; add underlined materials)_

1.2.2 COMPOSITION

As specified in the *Governing Regulations*, Part IV, the University Senate is composed of both elected and *ex officio* membership. The elected membership shall number [113] 114, of which 94 members shall represent the faculty, [18] 19 shall represent the student body, and one shall represent the emeriti faculty. (US:10/12/81 and BofT:4/6/82; US: 3/20/89 and BoT: 8/22/89; US: 3/9/98 and BoT: 4/7/98)

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1.2.2.2 Elected Student Membership The [18] 19 elected student membership shall consist of the President of the Student Government Association and [represent the members] representatives of the full-time student body in the various colleges including Lexington Community College and the Graduate School of the University System. The colleges and the Graduate School each shall have one student representative. Students

with no declared major shall be represented through the College of Arts and Sciences. (US:10/12/81 and BofT:4/6/82; US: 3/9/98 & BoT: 4/7/98)

A Eligibility: Each elected [student member] college representative shall be a junior, senior, or graduate or professional student, or in the case of LCC, sophomore standing, and shall not be on either academic or disciplinary probation.

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1.2.2.4 Ex Officio Membership: Voting The *ex officio* voting members shall number 13 or 12 [14]. In academic years beginning with an even number (e.g., 1984-1985, 1986-1987), this group shall be composed of the following: Chancellor for the Medical Center, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Director of Libraries, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, [Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Community College System] Director of Teaching and Learning Center, and Deans of the Colleges of Allied Health Professions, Architecture, Communications and Information Studies, Dentistry, Education, Engineering, Law, and Social Work. In academic years beginning with an odd number, the *ex officio* voting members shall be the following: Chancellor for the Lexington Campus, [Chancellor for the Community College System] President of the Lexington Community College, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Medical Center, the Dean of the Graduate School, [the President of the Student Government Association,] and the Deans of the Colleges of Agriculture, Arts and Sciences, Business and Economics, Fine Arts, Human Environmental Sciences, [Library and Information Science,] Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy. (US:10/12/81 and BofT:4/6/82; US: 11/10/86; US: 4/13/87 and BofT:9/15/87)

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1.3.1.2 Composition The Senate Council shall be composed as follows: the elected membership shall include nine (9) members chosen by and from the faculty membership of the University Senate, The President of the Student Government Association, and two (2) members elected by and from the newly elected student membership of the University Senate; the [student and] faculty members of the Board of Trustees, who, if they are not elected members of the Senate Council, and the immediate past chair of the Senate Council shall be *ex officio* non-voting members. Six elected members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. (US:10/10/77)

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B Elected Student Membership

1. **Terms**--The two [E]lected student members of the Council and the President of the Student Government Association shall serve terms of one (1) year commencing July 1 following their election and continuing until their successors are elected and qualify.
2. **Election**--The two (2) elected student members of the Council shall be chosen annually in the second semester of the academic year. As soon as possible after the election of the student members of the Senate during the second semester, the President of the Student Government Association shall assemble these persons to elect the student members of the Senate Council by majority vote.

Rationale:

Currently, the SGA President serves as an *ex-officio* member of both the Senate and the Senate Council. In the Senate, he/she is grouped with several administrators whose voting rights alternate each year, voting only in academic years which begin with an odd number. While this arrangement makes sense in the case of administrators who typically serve in their respective capacities for a number of years, it make little sense in the case of the SGA President who is elected for a one-year term.

Voting privilege should be extended to the SGA President in the Senate and on the Senate Council. The SGA President is the only member in the Senate and the Senate Council that is elected by and represents all students. Unlike the other student representatives who have a responsibility to their particular colleges, the SGA President must speak on behalf of all 30,000 students. The responsibilities of the SGA President, the limited term of the office, and the value of student input into university decisions merits a change in policy.

The proposal to add the Director of the Teaching and Learning Center was suggested because this is an administrative position comparable to the Director of Libraries, who serves *ex officio*. The other changes in the *ex officio* membership are editorial.

Note: If approved, recommendations I - 1.2.2, 1.2.2.2 and 1.2.2.4 will be forwarded to the Administration for inclusion in the Governing Regulations. Recommendations I - 1.3.1.2 and B. under that section will be codified into the Senate Rules.

Implementation Date: Upon approval