

MOTION

REVISING BOARD OF VISITOR BYLAWS REGARDING FACULTY REPRESENTATION

Referred by the Faculty Senate Executive Council

Motion:

The Faculty Senate recommends that the Board of Visitors revise its Bylaws, Section 5, Part A, regarding faculty appointments to the Board of Visitors. The Faculty Senate recommends that the President of the Faculty Senate serve as the non-voting, faculty advisory representative to the Board. The Board may wish to consider a similar selection process for the student representation on the Board, in consultation with the Student Government Association.

The original and recommended wordings of the appropriate bylaws section are included below, with possible changes highlighted.

Original wording for Section 5, Part A of the Board of Visitors bylaws:

A. Appointments. The Board is to appoint one faculty member and one student as non-voting, advisory representatives to the Board. Representatives are appointed at the last regular meeting of the fiscal year, and serve one-year terms beginning with the annual meeting of the Board. Faculty representatives are appointed from a list of three faculty members submitted by the Faculty Senate. Student representatives are appointed from a list of three students submitted by the President after consultation with the Student Government Association and appropriate members of the administration.

Recommended wording for Section 5, Part A of the Board of Visitors bylaws:

A. Appointments. The President of the Faculty Senate will serve as the non-voting advisory representative of the Faculty on the Board of Visitors, with any transitions in faculty representation to occur the last day of exam week of the semester in which the new Senate President is elected. The Board shall appoint one student as a non-voting advisory representative to the Board. The student representative will be appointed at the last regular meeting of the fiscal year from a list of three students submitted by the President after consultation with the Student Government Association and appropriate members of the administration. Non-voting advisory representatives will serve for one year beginning with the annual meeting of the Board.

Rationale:

As indicated in its Constitution, the Faculty Senate serves as the official voice of the faculty on all matters which fall within its jurisdiction. The President of the Faculty Senate is elected by the full Faculty Senate, presides at all meetings, and serves as an ex officio member of all Faculty Senate committees. The Faculty Senate bylaws indicate, "The President of the Faculty Senate shall meet quarterly with Chairs of the Senate Committees to determine items of Senate business to be included in quarterly Board of Visitors reports." As such, the Faculty Senate President has greatest access to the collective voice of the faculty and to information needed for the quarterly Board of Visitors reports. Additionally, it is essential that the faculty voice be

included in any summer Board of Visitor meetings or retreats. The new policy would simplify any transition in faculty representation.