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Assembly of the Academic Senate
Academic Council
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

October 23, 2006

SYSTEM-WIDE SENATE COMMITTEE CHAIRS
DIVISIONAL SENATE CHAIRS

RE: System-wide Review of the Proposed Modification to Senate Bylaw 205 Part I. A.

Dear System-wide Senate Committee and Divisional Senate Chairs:

On behalf of Chair Oakley, the above document is being forwarded for your review and comments. As background information, during the past two years the University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction (UCR&J) experienced a situation whereby the committee chair was unable to lead the committee due to reasons beyond the chair's control. Since the [UCR&J Bylaw](#) does not allow for a Vice Chair or define who should act in the absence of the chair, the University Committee on Committees (UCOC), along with UCR&J, and the Academic Senate Secretary/Parliamentarian have proposed an amendment to Senate Bylaw 205 Part I.A. This proposed amendment would permit the appointment of a vice chair, as well as the addition of two additional at-large-members. The attached letter provides a complete justification for these proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 205.Part 1.A.

At its September 27, 2006 meeting, the Academic Council voted to distribute the proposed amendments to Senate Bylaw 205 Part I.A. for system-wide Senate review.

Please note that Senate Bylaw 205 Part I.A. is a [protected Bylaw](#) and therefore "Modification of Bylaws marked "[Protected -- see Bylaw 116.E]" requires approval of two-thirds of all voting members of the Assembly present, followed by ratification by two-thirds of the votes cast in a mail ballot of the voting members of the Academic Senate." The Academic Council would therefore like to finalize its position with respect to the recommendations early in the 06-07, so that the Assembly can also act within this academic year. In order to do so, we would very much appreciate receiving responses by the date listed below:

For **System-wide Senate Committees** please submit responses by: **January 10, 2007**
For **Divisions** please submit responses by: **February 15, 2007**

As a reminder to System-wide Senate Committee Chairs, please note two points regarding the practice the Academic Council has established for general reviews:

1. **Request for comments are sent out to all System-wide Committees. Each committee may decide whether or not to opine.** Please notify the Senate Office either directly by emailing me or through your Committee Analyst, if your committee chooses not to participate in this review.
2. **The Committee response due date is typically set a month before that of Divisions.** This two-stage review allows the Academic Council to conduct both a preliminary and a final discussion of the matter at hand. It also gives the Divisions the benefit of the committees' considerations for their own deliberations.

Cordially,



María Bertero-Barceló, Executive Director
Academic Senate

Encl: 1
Copy: Academic Council Chair John Oakley
Divisional Senate Directors
Academic Senate Committee Analysts

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Assembly of the Academic Senate
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April 26, 2006

Chair John Oakley
Academic Council
Assembly of the Academic Senate
111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Dear John,

In recent years, the UC Rules and Jurisdiction Committee has experienced several episodes during which the committee chair was unable to lead the committee during periods of time related their own health, family health and professional travel. While these kinds of events are commonplace, and can be expected to occur again, they tend to disrupt the work of R&J more than other senate committees because R&J is a very small committee, its composition is carefully defined, and it has no vice chair. The UC Committee on Committees and R&J now propose two amendments to the bylaws that define R&J membership to permit continuity of committee leadership and work in the event of an interruption in the chair's availability. Because the bylaws that define R&J membership are protected (Bylaw 116.E and Legislative Ruling 12.93.A-B (extracted in attached text), these changes need to be reviewed and approved by the Assembly, and then voted on by 2/3 of all votes cast by voting members of the entire Academic Senate.

Membership of the UC Rules and Jurisdiction committee is defined in Bylaw 205 Part I A, which currently reads:

"The committee shall consist of five members, two chosen from the Chairs of the Divisional Committees on Rules and Jurisdiction and three members at large. Members at large shall serve for three years, other members for three years or until they cease to hold the office of Chair of the Divisional Committees on Rules and Jurisdiction, whichever is less. The Chair shall be chosen from the members at large. No member shall be simultaneously a member of the Assembly."

We propose amendment of this bylaw to read:

"The committee shall consist of ~~five~~ **seven** members, two chosen from the Chairs of the Divisional Committees on Rules and Jurisdiction and ~~three~~ **five** members at large. Members at large shall serve for three years, other members for three years or until they cease to hold the office of Chair or **Vice Chair** of the Divisional Committees on Rules and Jurisdiction, whichever is less. The Chair and **Vice Chair** shall be chosen from the members at large. No member shall be simultaneously a member of the Assembly."

We respectfully submit these amendments for consideration of the Assembly and the Academic Senate.

Sincerely Yours,

Prof Gershon Shafir
Chair, UCOC

Prof. Eric Smith
Chair, UCR&J

Prof. Jean Olson
Parliamentarian of the
Assembly