MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS

Re: Assembly Action on Revisions to Senate Bylaw 55 (Professor of Teaching)

Dear Colleagues:

I write to update you on the outcome of proposed revisions to Senate Bylaw 55 discussed and voted on at the June 21, 2024 meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate. The amendments rename the “Lecturer with Security of Employment” (LSOE) faculty title series as “Professor of Teaching.”

The amendments were proposed by the University Committee on Academic Personnel (UCAP) in August 2023. The University subsequently sponsored a systemwide review of a corresponding title change in Academic Personnel Manual (APM) 285 that was approved and took effect on May 1, 2024. This action necessitated corresponding changes to Senate Bylaw 55 to ensure title consistency. The new title will apply systemwide, but campuses should note that, at their discretion and in accordance with APM 285-8-f, they may continue to use an alternate working title (e.g., Teaching Professor or Professor of Teaching ___, using applicable ranks).

The Assembly approved the proposed revisions in a vote of 43 in favor and 1 opposed. The affirmative vote of 97.7% met the two-thirds majority of Assembly members in attendance required by Senate Bylaw 116.E for amending a Senate bylaw.

The approved revisions are attached to this letter and have been published to the Manual of the Senate [here]. Senate leadership appreciates UCAP’s initiative in proposing these amendments. Additionally, we have asked the administration to implement conforming changes to other systemwide policies where the old title is still used, including APM 210-3, APM 112, and Regents Standing Order 105.1.

Sincerely,

James Steintrager, Chair
Academic Council
Cc:  President Drake  
Provost Newman  
Secretary Lyall  
Vice Provost Haynes  
Associate Vice Provost Lee  
Academic Senate Executive Directors  
Senate Executive Director Lin
55. Departmental Voting Rights

A. General Provisions
1. According to the Standing Orders of the Regents, ". . . the several departments of the University, with the approval of the President, shall determine their own form of administrative organization . . . " No department shall be organized in a way that would deny to any of its non-emeritae/i faculty who are voting members of the Academic Senate, as specified in Standing Order 105.1(a), the right to vote on substantial departmental questions, excepting only certain personnel actions as detailed in Article B of this Bylaw. [See Legislative Ruling 5.67 ] (Am 4 May 95)
2. In all matters other than those specified in paragraphs 1 to 5 of Article B of this Bylaw, the right to vote may be delegated to duly elected committees.

B. Designation of Voting Rights
1. All tenured faculty in a department have the right to vote on all new departmental appointments that confer membership in the Academic Senate. Prior to such a vote, all the non-emeritae/i departmental members of the Academic Senate must be afforded an opportunity to make their opinions known to the voters. (Am 4 May 95)
2. Professors have the right to vote on all cases of promotion to the ranks of Professor, Professor-in-Residence, and Professor of Clinical (e.g. Medicine). Professors and Professors of Teaching have the right to vote on all cases of appointment or promotion to the rank of Professor of Teaching. (Am 5 May 88)
3. Professors and Associate Professors have the right to vote on all cases of promotion to the ranks of Associate Professor, Associate Professor-in-Residence, and Associate Professor of Clinical (e.g. Medicine). Professors, Associate Professors, Professors of Teaching, and Associate Professors of Teaching have the right to vote on all cases of appointment to the rank of Associate Professor of Teaching. (Am 5 May 88)
4. For voting purposes, all cases that involve the removal of the Acting modifier from the title of a member of the Academic Senate shall be treated as promotions to the rank in question.
5. All cases of non-reappointments or terminations of Assistant Professors, Assistant Professors-in-Residence, and Assistant Professors of Clinical (e.g. Medicine), or Lecturers and Senior Lecturers, shall be voted upon by those faculty eligible to vote on promotions to the ranks of Associate Professor, Associate Professor-in-Residence, Associate Professor of Clinical (e.g. Medicine), or appointments to the titles Associate Professor of Teaching and Professor of Teaching, respectively. (Am 5 May 88)
6. All cases of advancement within any rank that confers membership in the Academic Senate shall be voted upon by those persons entitled to vote on promotion or non-reappointment to the rank in question under the provisions of Paragraphs 2 to 5 of this Article B. (En 4 May 1995)
7. In none of the instances specified in Paragraphs 1 to 5 of this Article B may the right to vote be delegated to a committee. The actual method of voting shall be determined by the eligible voters; subject, however, to the provision that no voter
may be denied the option to require a secret ballot. In cases of advancement within rank, the eligible voters for each rank in question shall either follow the same procedures used for promotions and non-reappointment or may, by two thirds majority vote and subject to the approval of the divisional Committee on Academic Personnel or its equivalent, delegate the authority for such actions to a duly elected committee or other agency, or adopt some other method acceptable to the divisional Committee on Academic Personnel or its equivalent. Any such method or delegation of authority shall remain in effect for at least one calendar year (twelve months). Thereafter, upon the request of any faculty member entitled to a vote on the cases in question under the provisions of Paragraph 6 of this Article B, the eligible voters shall reconsider the question of how such cases shall be handled. (Am 4 May 1995)

8. The tenured faculty members of a department shall establish the method by which personnel matters other than those listed in Paragraphs 1 to 6 of this Article B are determined. The method adopted must have the approval of the divisional Committee on Academic Personnel or its equivalent.