

UNH FACULTY SENATE

MOTION # XIX-M12

Motion on amendments to faculty senate constitution to include representation of non-tenure track faculty on senate

1. Motion presenter: Kerry Kazura, chair of Ad Hoc Committee on CLER Faculty Involvement in the Faculty Senate (Original Motion presented by William deVries)
2. Dates of Faculty Senate discussion: 9/22/2014, 10/6/2014, 10/20/2014, 11/3/2014, 11/17/2014, 12/1/2014, 1/26/2015, 2/9/2015, 2/23/15, 3/2/15, 4/13/15, 4/27/13, 5/4/15

3. Rationale:

The shape of the University's faculty has been changing. Increasingly, non-tenure-track faculty of various classifications (Clinical faculty, Contract faculty (at the School of Law), Lecturer, Alternative Security faculty, Extension faculty, and Research faculty) or CCLEAR faculty join the tenure track faculty to accomplish our academic mission. Since 1996, the voice of the faculty in academic policy making at UNH has been that of the tenure track faculty of the University. In light of the changing composition of the UNH faculty, it is time to reflect our current reality in the constitution of the academic policy-making body of the University.

The national AAUP has released a report calling for greater participation of all faculty in the shared governance structures in higher education,¹ and research has shown that in relation to its comparator institutions, UNH structures its faculty governance body very narrowly. There is a wealth of knowledge and experience spread throughout the faculty of the University. Strong ties and a deep commitment to the University are spread equally across tenure-track and CCLEAR faculty. This knowledge and experience can and should inform University Academic Policy. Furthermore, the educated faculty who execute the University's Academic Policies should also have a voice in setting, and therefore owning, those policies.

The Ad Hoc committee proposes the following changes to the Faculty Senate Constitution. The goal is to make the Faculty Senate more representative of the faculty who work at UNH.

4. Motion: The committee recommends the following revisions to the Faculty Senate Constitution:

Recommended revisions to the Faculty Senate Constitution

These changes to the Faculty Senate Constitution will be incorporated into the Constitution March 1, 2016.

¹ "The Inclusion in Governance of Faculty Members Holding Contingent Appointments" is available at <http://www.aaup.org/report/governance-inclusion>.

Revise the current “membership” clause to read:

Membership: Each academic department shall elect one, two, or three members to the Faculty Senate, depending on the department's size based on the number of eligible to serve faculty. Departments with 15 or fewer faculty shall elect one senator, departments with 16-40 faculty shall elect two senators, and departments with more than 40 faculty shall elect three senators. The first appointment in every department shall be a tenure-track faculty. In those departments with more than 15 faculty, additional senators shall either be non-tenure track or tenure-track faculty. Non-tenure track faculty must hold a 75% or greater appointment at the University of New Hampshire.

Henceforth we will use the acronym CCLEAR for non-tenure track faculty, which stands for Clinical, Contract, Lecturer, Extension, Alternative Security, and Research.

For purposes of Faculty Senate membership, the Library, the Thompson School, UNH-Manchester, and the School of Law shall be treated in the same way as departments (See Bylaw 4). Elections shall be by an approval ballot in which every eligible faculty member of the department is nominated and in which faculty members can vote for as many candidates as they wish. All tenure-track faculty and CCLEAR faculty who are eligible to serve may vote. The Faculty Senate shall supervise the elections.

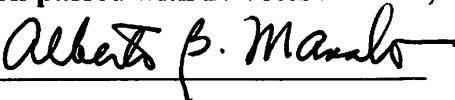
Revision to clause 3 “Faculty referendum on senate actions”

Remove the words “tenure-track” in sentence 2, and insert “eligible to vote in Senate elections” after “faculty” in that sentence. Insert “eligible” before “faculty” in sentence 7.

Revision to clause 10 “Meetings open to faculty”

Remove the words “tenure-track”.

5. Senate action: the motion passed with 27 votes in favor, 10 opposed, and 2 abstentions.

6. Senate chair’s signature: 

Forwarded to: President Mark Huddleston, on September 1, 2015
Provost Lisa MacFarlane, on September 1, 2015
P.T. Vasudevan, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, on September 1, 2015
All college deans, on September 1, 2015
All department chairs, on September 1, 2015
Chrissy O’Keefe, Chair of Lecturer Council, on September 1, 2015
Alice Mullen, Chair of Extension Educator Council, on September 1, 2015
Jan Nisbet, Senior Vice Provost for Research, on September 1, 2015