Senate Charter Revision: University College Representation

I. Rationale for the Charter Revision

On July 1, 2010 the Bowling Green Community College changed its name to the Commonwealth School and joined the University College. Because this change occurred after the last senate elections, our elections in the spring of 2011 will be the first elections after the change.

Prior to the change, there were no "departments" within the University College. Faculty members were tenured to the college and were represented by a single "departmental" senate representative. Now, there are traditional departments (each Commonwealth School division and the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies) to which faculty can be tenured. However, there are still faculty members within the University College who are tenured directly to the College, that is, they have no traditional "departmental" affiliation. Our goal is to provide department-level representation to these faculty members with a revision that is flexible enough to adapt to future changes.

II. Proposed Revision

Current Charter Wording:

1. Each college department, each library department, each Community College division, and the University College shall have one representative. These representatives shall be voting members of the Senate, and shall serve a two-year term. They shall select their own alternate to serve in their place if they are unable to attend a University Senate function. The alternate shall have the full rights and privileges of an elected senator when substituting for a regular representative.

Proposed Charter Wording:

1. Each college unit to which a faculty member can be tenured and each library department shall have one representative. If more than 4 faculty members within a college are tenured to the college, rather than to a departmental unit, they shall be collectively treated as a department for the purposes of Senate representation. These representatives shall be voting members of the Senate, and shall serve a two-year term. They shall select their own alternate to serve in their place if they are unable to attend a University Senate function. The alternate shall have the full rights and privileges of an elected senator when substituting for a regular representative.

Kelly Madole 12/10/10 8:58 AN

Comment [1]: The rationale here is that if there are fewer than four faculty members, senate membership becomes a "forced" obligation.