

## Faculty Governance Proposal

### University Faculty Committee Executive Committee (UFC EC)

I. Original Option 2 proposed by the Handbook Advisory Group

#### **Option 2: Faculty Senate with 24-25 members:**

##### **CAS (15)**

School of Life & Physical Sciences (3 depts)

School of the Arts (4 depts)

School of the Humanities (4 depts)

School of the Social Sciences (4 depts)

##### **COE&H (3)**

3 depts: EDUC, NURS, AHPE

##### **COB&CS (4)**

4 depts

##### **2-3 At Large**

(Could be truly at-large or 1/college if 3 reps)

Consider adding qualifications:

- Can a contingent faculty member be added? (Compensation was a challenge when these conversations began in 19-20.)

Pros:

- Having one rep per unit may reduce communication issues.
- Some faculty have expressed interest in returning to a Faculty Senate model.

Cons:

- Smaller departments would have a larger burden of staffing this model year after year. Some other schools have affordances for smaller departments to waive their representation and/or “bundle” with another unit, and these options could be explored.
- Current UFC has a 50/50 split between CAS and COE/COB/At-large; this model ranges from a 62.5/37.5 split (24 members) to a 60/40 split (25 members). However, at-large positions tend to be CAS due to larger population. Requiring at-large members to come from separate colleges could help with dispersing representation.

Implementation Considerations:

- What would the role of an at-large rep be in a Faculty Senate? Are they still needed?
- Like Truman State, can smaller units (under a set number of full-time instructional faculty, like 5?) collaborate with others to send one representative that represents both departments? Would this be a double vote or a single vote?

II. Changes proposed by UFC EC in response to UFC discussion

At the September UFC meeting, Option 2 presented by the handbook group garnered the most support. However, faculty raised concerns falling into two main categories, which collectively were the first “con” noted by the advisory group

- Service burden in smaller departments: Several UFC members suggested that departments rotate their representative, which would lead to more frequent service in those small departments.
- Underrepresentation: Representatives from the largest departments would represent greater faculty members.

The number of faculty in each department are shown below. The numbers are from the Provost’s 2024 final reorganization report. There are some differences between these numbers and the 2024-2025 faculty count, which only highlights both the flexibility of this model and the challenge of basing a forward-thinking, lasting governance model based on current faculty numbers.

Department	Number of faculty	Department	Number of faculty	Department	Number of faculty
AACPR	13	HISO	13	CPSC	10
ARTS	5	HISP	6	ECON	4
BIOL	15	MDLL	15	MATH	10
CHPH	10	MUSC	4	AHPE	15
CMDS	7	PSIA	9	EDUC	12
EESC	7	PSYC	13	NURS	3
ENLI	19	THEA	6		
GEOG	9	BUAD	21		

The UFC EC suggests the following changes:

- To address the service representation concern, UFC members proposed allowing departments to agree to share one representative. This choice is temporary, and departments could agree not to share in the future.

Note: Addressing larger departments is more challenging, as large departments may become smaller over time, or split into multiple departments (subject to University and SCHEV approval). The UFC EU recommends that each department elect/appoint one representative.

- Eliminated at-large positions; each department is already represented and the total size (22) is large.

Finally, the UFC EC notes that while a senate model is department-centered, the percentage of representatives from each college matches the percentage of faculty from each college to within two percent.

College	Percent of faculty within college	Percent of representatives from college
CAS	67	68
*COEHS	20	18
*COBI	13	14

\*These names are placeholders and are not the final names.

**Proposed Governance Structure to discuss and send to college for vote at Oct. UFC meeting:**

**Faculty Senate with 22 members**

**CAS (15)**

School of Life & Physical Sciences (3 depts)

School of the Arts (4 depts)

School of the Humanities (4 depts)

School of the Social Sciences (4 depts)

**COE&H (3)**

3 depts: EDUC, NURS, AHPE

**COB&CS (4)**

4 depts