

FACULTY AGENDA ITEM NO: 12-04

Date: *March 5th, 2012*

Submitted by: *Matt Arterburn, Faculty Affairs Committee Chair*

SUBJECT: *Prohibition of Proxy votes in Faculty Senate*

Description: *The Faculty Senate Constitution does not currently address whether voting by proxy is permitted. Historically this has not been allowed, in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order. The Faculty Affairs Committee recommends the addition of language to the Faculty Senate Constitution that explicitly prohibits voting by proxy, to avoid any future confusion on this issue.*

This action will modify section V-D of the Faculty Senate Constitution with the addition of a single sentence (underlined section):

D. Actions of the Faculty Senate will be taken by majority vote of members present, with the exception of amendments to the Senate Constitution. All actions of the Faculty Senate, however, require the presence of a quorum, defined as at least half the elected representatives. No senator may deliver a vote by proxy in the faculty senate or faculty senate committees.

Rationale: The Faculty Affairs Committee recommends against the use of votes by proxy in the Faculty Senate and its subcommittees. The use of proxies invites risks of eroding committee continuity, less-informed voting/discussion and Faculty Senate representation becoming an intermittent commitment.

Financial Implications: *None*

Proposed Effective Date: *Immediately upon final approval*

Request for Action: *Approval by FS*

(Note: 2/3 majority vote required for changes to FS constitution)

Approved by: *FAC on date: 03/05/2012*

Faculty Senate on date: