

**MOTION: FACULTY SENATE APPROVAL AUTHORITY ON CORE CURRICULUM ISSUES  
REFERRED BY: FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Motion

The Faculty Senate recommends the following:

1. Revision to Article V of the Faculty Senate Constitution, as follows (deletions in strikethrough, additions underlined):

*All proposed alterations in ~~general education~~ Core Curriculum requirements shall be subject to ~~review~~ approval by the Faculty Senate and ~~approval~~ by the President.*

2. Pursuant to Article IX of the Faculty Senate Constitution, the above provision should be submitted to the General Faculty for a vote by ballot.
3. If approved by the required majority of the General Faculty, the revision to the Faculty Senate Constitution shall be submitted to the Board of Visitors along with the following motion for Board of Visitors Consideration:

*The Faculty Senate recommends that the Faculty Senate Constitution and University governing documents pertaining to the Core Curriculum be revised to indicate that the Faculty Senate must approve all proposed alterations in the Core Curriculum.*

Rationale

This motion would grant the Faculty Senate approval authority over matters pertaining to the Core Curriculum. The implication is that any Core Curriculum changes would have to receive the approval of the Faculty Senate before being conveyed to the next authority in the approval process. While Faculty Senate approval would not guarantee that a change would ultimately be adopted, it would be necessary for the proposal to continue through the process. Proposals that fail to receive Faculty Senate approval would not be sent forward.

This proposal would not change the pathway through which proposals must proceed.

Because the Core Curriculum is a university-wide program, it is necessary for all departments, schools, and colleges to have input on Core Curriculum matters. The rationale for this motion is that the Faculty Senate, as “the official voice of the faculty” (preamble to the Faculty Senate Constitution), is the body most appropriately constituted to provide faculty review of the Core Curriculum. Further, this motion defines the role of the faculty in curricular matters by providing that curricular decisions pertaining to the Core Curriculum may only continue through the process upon approval of the faculty, as custodians of the curriculum. This is consistent with curricular decisions made at the department or school level, in which failure to receive support of the department or school faculty effectively nullifies any curricular proposal and prevents it from continuing in the process.

The motion is directed, in part, to the Board of Visitors. This is because the Board of Visitors originally approved the Faculty Senate Constitution in 1995 with the provision that the Faculty Senate have review and comment (rather than approval) authority over general education. Also, in 1996 the Board of Visitors approved a policy document pertaining to governance of general education, in which the Faculty Senate had review and comment (rather than approval) authority. Accordingly, this motion requests that the Board revise the policies as described in the motion.