

Motion to add an entry for Departments to the Internal Governance Document (FSEC)

Motion

The Faculty Senate Recommends that “Departments” be added to the committee list included in the Internal Governance Document. The listing in the IG document would be as follows:

Departments and Schools

Departments (and schools without departments, which along with their directors, shall be understood to be included hereinafter) are important units in university governance. They elect Department Curriculum Committees and representatives to the College Curriculum Committees. Section 4.2 Departmental Governance of the Teaching and Research Faculty affirms the right and responsibility of departments operating to make binding department policies. Departments may initiate changes that affect university governance, which may include the movement of programs and departments from one college to another, the merger of departments, and the division of a department into multiple units. Should proposals for such changes come from other constituencies, departments must be given the opportunity to review and comment on them. The membership of departments and eligibility to vote is defined in Section 4.2.2 of the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook.

Rationale

The Internal Governance Document recognizes the roles of Department Curriculum Committees and of Department Personnel Committees but does not include a listing for Department or Schools. Adding an entry to the IG document for departments would recognize them as units that could propose changes to the IG document and empower them to review proposals from other committees and councils.