

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
(First Reading; Information)

SP.19.14 Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article III, Sections 3 and 5, and Article VI –
Dean, Director, or Campus Librarian

BACKGROUND

Currently, the *Statutes* provide for the annual reappointment of college deans, but do not specify a process for the appointment of a new dean, as they do for the appointment of a new chancellor/vice president (Article I, Section 5). The appointment of a new dean should be treated as important as the annual reappointment, because a dean “is the agent of the college faculty for the execution of college educational policy” (*Statutes*, Article III, Section 3a).

Given the importance of this initial appointment, the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends adding an additional layer of faculty participation in the process. On the appointment of a new dean, a committee selected by the faculty of the college would advise the chancellor/vice president as part of the selection process. This procedure would strengthen shared governance and would align with the current procedure for the appointment of a new chancellor/vice president, in which a committee is selected by the Senate to advise the president (*Statutes*, Article I, Section 5).

Similar to that procedure, this proposal does not specify the composition of the search committee or the search process, but instead provides an avenue for selected faculty from the college to participate in the Chancellor’s search process, which typically involves other interested parties.

These proposed changes would formalize the role of the faculty in the appointment of a new dean, provide transparency to avoid potential conflicts of interest, promote diverse representation, and strengthen shared governance in academic and research matters that directly affect faculty.

Additionally, parallel language has been proposed for Article III, Section 5, which governs schools and similar campus units, and to Article VI, which governs the Library.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Statutes*, Article III, Sections 3 and 5, and Article VI.

Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~.

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATUTES, ARTICLE III, SECTIONS 3 AND 5, AND ARTICLE VI

1 **ARTICLE III. CAMPUSES, COLLEGES, AND SIMILAR CAMPUS UNITS**

2 **Section 3. The Dean**

3 b. The dean shall be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees on recommendation by the
4 chancellor/vice president and the president. On the initial appointment of a dean, the
5 chancellor/vice president shall seek the prior advice of a committee that is selected by the
6 faculty of the college in accordance with its bylaws. ~~On the occasion of each recommendation~~
7 reappointment of a dean, the chancellor/vice president shall seek the prior advice of the
8 executive committee of the college ~~concerned~~. The performance of the dean shall be evaluated
9 at least once every five years in a manner to be determined by the ~~college~~ faculty of the
10 college.

11

12 **Section 5. The Dean or Director of a School or Similar Campus Unit**

13 a. In a school or similar campus unit independent of a college, the chief executive officer shall
14 be a dean or director appointed annually by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of
15 the chancellor/vice president and the president. On the initial appointment of a dean or
16 director, the chancellor/vice president shall seek the prior advice of a committee that is
17 selected by the faculty of the unit in accordance with its bylaws. ~~On the occasion of each~~
18 ~~recommendation~~ reappointment of a dean or director, the chancellor/vice president shall seek
19 the prior advice of the executive committee of the ~~faculty concerned~~ unit. Within the school or
20 similar campus unit, the duties of a director or a dean shall be the same as those of the dean of
21 a college. The performance of the dean or director shall be evaluated at least once every five
22 years in a manner to be determined by the faculty of the unit.

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24 **ARTICLE VI. THE CAMPUS LIBRARY**

25 e. The campus librarian shall be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees on the
26 recommendation of the chancellor/vice president with the concurrence of the President of the
27 University. On the initial appointment of a campus librarian, the chancellor/vice president shall

28 seek the prior advice of a committee that is selected by the faculty of the campus library in
29 accordance with its bylaws. ~~On the occasion of each such appointment~~ reappointment of a
30 campus librarian, the chancellor/vice president shall seek the prior advice of the library
31 committee of the campus senate and of the library executive committee. The performance of
32 the campus librarian shall be evaluated at least once every five years in a manner to be
33 determined by the faculty of the campus library and the library committee of the campus
34 senate. As part of the evaluation, views shall be solicited from the library committee of the
35 campus senate, from other concerned faculty, and from the entire faculty of the campus
36 library.

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