Revised Proposal on RTE Representation For UFC Consideration (3/4/19)

University Voting Rights (UVR)

An individual with UVR is eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate and can vote in University-wide elections that determine the Faculty Trustees, the Dean of Faculty, the Associate Dean of Faculty, the University Faculty Committee, and the Nominations and Elections Committee. Individuals with UVR can also vote in elections that determine their department’s senator(s).

The University Faculty (UF) and the RTE Faculty

In the following, titles in red have UVR.

The UF is made up of the Tenure Track (TT) Faculty (all ranks of professor), the emeriti, and all ranks of adjunct professor, visiting professor, courtesy professor, and acting professor. Throughout this document “UF*” refers to the UF who have UVR, i.e., the TT faculty (with unmodified titles) and the emeriti.

Those with the following titles make up the RTE faculty: research professor (all ranks), clinical professor (all ranks), professor-of-the-practice (all ranks), senior scholar, research scientist, principal research scientist, senior research associate, research associate, senior lecturer, lecturer, senior extension associate, extension associate, librarian, associate librarian, senior assistant librarian, assistant librarian, archivist, associate archivist, senior assistant archivist, assistant archivist, visiting scientist, visiting critic, visiting scholar, visiting fellow, instructor, and teaching associate. An RTE title modified by “visiting”, “acting”, or “courtesy” does not have UVR. Throughout this document, “RTE*” refers to the RTE Faculty with UVR.

Faculty Senate Membership Rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Seat</th>
<th>Existing Rules</th>
<th>Proposed Rules</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>a) Every department gets one seat to be filled by a member of the UF*. b) If TT &gt; 25 then a department gets a second seat to be filled by a member of the UF*.</td>
<td>a) Every department gets one seat to be filled by a member of the UF*. b) If TT + RTE &gt; 25 then, a department gets a second seat to be filled by either a member of the UF* or a member of the RTE*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College At-Large</td>
<td>a) There are no college at-large seats.</td>
<td>a) Every college gets one seat to be filled by a member of the RTE*. b) If RTE &gt; 25, then a college gets a second seat to be filled by a member of the RTE*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University At-Large</td>
<td>a) Nine seats three of whom must be filled by an untenured member of the UF*.</td>
<td>a) Three seats designated for the tenured UF*. b) Three seats designated for the untenured UF*. c) Three seats designated for the RTE*.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated</td>
<td>a) One seat for the emeriti to be filled by Cornell Academics and Professors Emeriti.</td>
<td>a) One seat for the emeriti to be filled by Cornell Academics and Professors Emeriti. b) One seat for the RTE* to be filled by Cornell University Library.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonvoting Ex-Officio</td>
<td>a) One seat for each of the Assemblies and ROTC.</td>
<td>a) One seat each for the Assemblies and ROTC. b) One seat for post docs be to filled through the Office of Postdoctoral Studies.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Allocations Given the Current Size of the UF* and RTE*

Under the existing rules, 18 of the 72 departments have two senators. The total size of the Senate is 100.

Under the proposed rules, 28 of the 72 departments would have two senators and there would be 16 College at-large Senators (AAP-1, CALS-2, CAS-2, CHE-1, CIS-1, CVM-2, ENG-2, ILR-1, JCB-2, LAW-1.) The total size of the Senate would be 127.

Implementation Details

1. Voting. Department senators are elected by secret ballot. Anybody who is eligible to occupy a Senate seat in the unit can place their name on the slate. All those with UVR can vote.

2. Visiting. If the proposed plan is adopted, then any member of either the UF or RTE faculty can attend and speak.

3. Visible Data. The DoF Office will maintain on its website a table that reports the current academic titleholder populations for every college and department. It will also publicize the total number of UF* Senators and the total number of RTE* Senators.

4. Allocations. Every third January the Nominations and Elections Committee will review the numbers and determine the department and college allocations. Changes would take effect at the start of the following Fall Semester.

5. Regular Assessment. At least every three years the University Faculty Committee with broad consultation will assess the quality of Faculty representation as realized through the various allocation formulae. All concerns including those related to the UF*-to-RTE* ratio1 would be discussed in the Faculty Senate. Proposed modifications will be brought before the University Faculty in accordance with the Bylaws of that body, i.e., the Organization and Procedures of the University Faculty.

---

1 Some faculty worry that there might be an RTE* majority in the Senate. What might trigger such a situation? Let’s explore the implications of two assumptions that would maximize the number of RTE* Senators.

   Assumption 1. Every 2-seat department elects an RTE* Senator. Let N be the number of such departments.

   Assumption 2. The RTE* numbers are such that each of the 10 colleges have two at-large, RTE*-only seats.

Under these assumptions the number of UF* Senators would be 79 because there are 72 departments, 6 University at-large seats, and 1 seat for the emeriti.

Under these same assumptions the number of RTE* Senators would be $N + 24$. (The “24” is made up of the 20 College at-large seats, the 3 university at-large seats, and 1 library seat.)

It follows from $N + 24 > 79$ that an RTE* majority would require $N > 55$. For the number of 2-seat units to increase from 28 to 55 there would have to be at least a 20% increase in the overall size of the faculty. If growth was realized entirely through RTE* appointments, then their numbers would have to increase from about 500 to 700—a 40% increase. These are unlikely scenarios.

Nevertheless, if $N$ approaches 55 one could argue that with such success in the Departments the College at-large “pathway” becomes less important and could be “dialed back”. (Doing away with the college at-large seats guarantees a UF* majority.)

The point is that the three-year assessment plan guarantees that discussions of this type occur. We are proposing a simple mechanism for modifying the Senate should there be substantial changes in the composition of the Faculty.