

Faculty Governance Committee Resolution 23/24-07

Faculty Chairperson *pro tempore*

The Faculty Governance Committee moves that the faculty endorse the appointment by President Singer of a Faculty Chairperson *pro tempore* to run the April and May faculty meetings on an experimental basis. With the endorsement of the faculty, FGC will conduct a nomination and review process to recommend a member of the faculty to the President to serve in this capacity for the remainder of the 2023-24 academic year.

The criteria that FGC has identified for evaluating nominees are:

- Desire to give voice *to* the faculty rather than to be the voice *of* the faculty,
- Capable of running meetings efficiently, fairly, and inclusively,
- Comfortable with Robert's Rules of Order, with assistance from the Parliamentarian,
- Capable of clearly explaining the processes of the meeting,
- Willingness to engage with standing committee chairs and administration to establish agenda items,
- Sufficient knowledge of the College and engagement beyond the department level,
- Demonstrated commitment to faculty governance,
- Faculty with voting franchise and at least 50% of their CE in teaching in the current academic year

Rationale

Faculty governance reform has been a topic of consideration for the Faculty Governance Committee for several years. The faculty has driven this conversation, working for broader engagement and empowerment that enables a greater diversity of voices. President Singer shares these goals and has repeatedly expressed her confidence in the faculty and in its ability to make good decisions about faculty governance; she has also indicated her desire for the faculty to determine the best way to be effective partners in shared governance. We are now presented with the opportunity to make changes that will invigorate our faculty governance with the support and collaboration of our President.

FGC, in line with its charge "To make recommendations on faculty governance" and "advise the administration on faculty meetings" (*Faculty Manual* 3.IV.B.3.b), met with President Singer during the fall semester to discuss an alternative model for chairing faculty meetings. As the current designated chair of faculty meetings, President Singer can delegate someone to serve as chairperson in her place, without the need to make changes to the *Faculty Manual*. In consultation with FGC, she has agreed to transfer responsibility for chairing faculty meetings to a person recommended by FGC for the remainder of the 2023-24 academic year. The shared goal of FGC and the President is to catalyze a process of meaningful discussion that will enable substantive change, leading to a revitalization of faculty governance and enhancing the freedom of the faculty to engage in conversations about faculty governance reform. Appointing a person other than the President to chair faculty meetings and contribute to agenda-setting for the remainder of 2023-24 represents the first step in a larger process.

Nomination and Review Process: FGC asks that, as much as possible, nominations include examples of the nominee's ability to fulfill the criteria articulated above. The committee will consider nominations at the next full meeting of FGC following passage of this resolution.