Resolution to Revise Language in the Faculty Handbook
Regarding Departmental Approval of Chairs
Faculty Senate
Professional Relations Committee
Approved March 7, 2016

Whereas the current language in the Faculty Handbook does not require that Clinical and Group II faculty approve department chair or school director selections; and

Whereas Clinical or Group II faculty are long-term professional members of the department or school faculty:

Be it resolved that the language in the Faculty Handbook be amended to

VII. D. Appointment and Evaluation of Department Chairs and School Directors

For the purposes of this policy, departments, schools, and regional campus divisions are equivalent units, and the roles of department chair, school director, and regional campus academic division coordinator are also equivalent.

When a vacancy exists, the college dean will be responsible for initiating action through the department to secure a new chair or director. The dean and the faculty shall jointly establish selection criteria and review the qualifications of all candidates. Department chairpersons, division coordinators, and directors of schools shall be selected by the dean with the advice and approval of the faculty (including regular Group I and full-time—at or above 0.80 FTE—Group II and Clinical faculty) of the department, division, or school. Initial appointments of chairs and directors require the approval of the Provost.

1. Chairs’ and directors’ appointments will be continued on a year-to-year basis. At the time of initial appointment, it may be agreed by the dean and the department or school faculty that the appointment will not exceed a given number of years. Before reappointment, it is the dean’s responsibility to review the effectiveness of a chair or director by consultation with the faculty of the department. The appointment may be terminated by the chair or director, by the dean after consultation with the faculty, or by written request to the dean of two-thirds of the faculty of the department or school.[1]

2. There will be an annual evaluation of all department chairs. The promotion and tenure committee (excluding the department chair) or equivalent departmental committee shall be responsible for carrying out the evaluation. A report of the results of this evaluation shall be furnished to the chair and the dean.