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MEMORANDUM

To:

Leila Hudson, Chair of the Faculty Mona Hymel, Vice Chair of the Faculty

Tessa Dysart, Secretary of the Faculty

From:

Robert C. Robbins, President Kolert C. Kollins

Date:

January 11, 2023

Subject:

Proposed Faculty Constitution, Bylaws Revisions

Thank you for providing for my review and consideration proposed revisions to both the Constitution of the General Faculty of the University of Arizona and the Faculty Bylaws. As previously shared, I appreciate Secretary Dysart's significant efforts to review Faculty Senate actions and meetings minutes spanning an extended period, to compare various document versions in the context of those actions and records, and to address discrepancies in advance of sharing the two primary documents (attached) and supporting information for my consideration.

Despite these informative and helpful clarification efforts, I remain concerned that the proposed Constitution and Bylaws revisions presented for my review and approval decision have not have been fully endorsed by Faculty Senate vote, either in whole or in part, as reflected in the documents. In light of the submitted documents for approval indicating faculty members either voted for proposed changes to a foundational document version that did not properly exist or did not vote on particular proposed changes at all, my presidential consideration at this stage is improper. It is necessary to fully ensure that all proposed changes to the Faculty Constitution and Faculty Bylaws documents have been previously and properly endorsed and confirmed via faculty vote in advance of my consideration and potential approval. The same expectation and determination likely would be held by the Arizona Board of Regents, whose approval also is necessary.

Rather than formally disapproving the proposed Faculty Constitution and Faculty Bylaws revisions in light of the known foundational and procedural issues, I request that Faculty Senate withdraw the pending documents for approval. Following notice of a faculty vote on redlined versions of each currently in-effect document, the properly revised documents will then be reviewed for presidential consideration and approval.

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As a result of the previously noted efforts to review recorded faculty actions, to detail proposed changes related to them, and to achieve improved version control, I hope a new faculty review and vote on Faculty Constitution and Faculty Bylaws revisions will involve enhanced clarity for all voting faculty members and yield a proper proposal for presidential decision.

I appreciate your continued engagement on this matter. Thank you for your collaboration and collegiality.

cc: Liesl Folks, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Mark Stegeman, Parliamentarian, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Jon Dudas, Senior Vice President, Secretary of the University

Attachments