TITLE: Motion to Change Faculty and Administration Manual for Reapportionment of Faculty Senate

With specific changes to FAM Bylaws:

Article IV, Section 2, A, E & H

INTENT: This series of suggested changes would result in clarification of the timing and procedure for reapportionment of faculty senators. There has been no reapportionment, nor any consideration of the need for a reapportionment since the senate was reduced to 50 senators (now 53 with the addition of Adjunct Faculty Senators) in 2010. Furthermore, language in section 2.E (that is proposed for deletion) pertained to only the first year of Senate elections and is no longer applicable for subsequent election cycles.

For each proposed change, single strike through text is a deletion, underlined text is new language.

Section 2. Composition and Election

A. Composition.
There shall be 50 Regular Faculty Senators (as defined in Article IV, Section 2.D.1), apportioned by the percentage of regular faculty (as defined in Article I, Section 1, (1) and (2), and excluding all those qualifying as ex officio regular faculty members under provision (3)) in each school (the library shall be considered a school for this purpose) and 3 Adjunct Faculty Senators with voting privileges. There shall be one Faculty Senator elected by each academic department, with the remainder of a school’s senators elected at-large by the faculty in that school. If a school should have more departments than its apportioned senators, then all of that school’s senators shall be elected at-large by the faculty in that school. (Ins. December 2009) The Adjunct Faculty Senators shall represent at least two different schools (including the library) and three different departments. (Rev. August 2015 to include Adjunct Faculty Senators)

D. Election
1. Without regard to teaching load, all and only regular faculty members as defined in Art. I, Sect. 1, excluding all those qualifying as ex officio regular faculty members under provision (3), are eligible to vote in elections for Faculty Senators. (Rev. Aug. 2015)

2. Only adjunct faculty [as defined in Article III, Section A, 2, b, (4)] who are also currently listed as instructor of record for at least one course are eligible to vote in elections for Adjunct Faculty Senators. (Ins. Aug. 2015)

3. No later than February 15, vacancies from the group of at-large Faculty Senators will be filled by means of an election conducted among the eligible faculty of each school (as defined in Section 1 above) through
ballot. By February 1, any and all regular faculty of a school may forward nominations or self-nominations to the Committee on Nominations and Elections for the at-large Faculty Senators in that school. The candidates receiving the most votes cast in these elections shall be elected to the at-large seats allocated to each school. Any tie shall be decided by lot. (Rev. Dec. 2009; Aug. 2015)

4. No later than March 15, each of the academic departments and Library will elect its Faculty Senator(s) from among its eligible members (as defined in Section 2B above). (Rev. Dec. 2009; Rev. Aug. 2015)

5. No later than April 15, the three Adjunct Faculty Senators shall be elected by the adjunct faculty in a manner consistent with the representation described in Section 2B above. (Ins. Aug. 2015)


7. All elections for at-large Faculty Senators and Adjunct Faculty Senators shall be conducted by secret ballot. Upon the receipt of a vote, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall ensure that the vote was cast by an eligible voter. In case of a tie vote, the election is decided by lot. (Rev. Dec. 2009; Aug. 2015)

E. Terms of Office

1. The term of office for Faculty Senators shall be two years; terms begin the day after spring commencement. A Senator shall be eligible for re-election to one additional consecutive term, following which one year must pass before he or she is again eligible. For purposes of eligibility, a partial term of service of one year or more shall be counted as a full term. Additionally, in order to maintain continuous service by departmental senators, any department with no eligible members may petition the Committee on Nominations and Elections for an exception at any time. One half of the Senators are elected each year. In the first year, election is for seats of one or two year terms, determined by lottery. A Faculty Senator elected in the first year to serve a one-year term is then eligible to be re-elected to two additional full terms. (Rev. April 2010; Aug. 2015)

2. Adjunct Faculty Senators shall be elected to fill a vacancy that span an entire academic year, commencing in August at the beginning of the period of contracted employment as an adjunct faculty member. An elected Adjunct Faculty Senator can only serve during times of active employment as an instructor of record, so her/his status as an Adjunct Faculty Senator lapses at the conclusion each contract period but is automatically renewed at the start of the ensuing contract period in the academic year. Service in any combination of semesters over a four-year service period requires that a full calendar year must pass before he or she is again eligible to serve as an Adjunct Faculty Senator. Additionally,
in order to maintain continuous adjunct representation at the senate, the office of the Provost or the Speaker of the Faculty may petition the Committee on Nominations and Elections for a special election to fill a vacated Adjunct Faculty Senator seat. (Ins. Aug. 2015)

F. Any Senator may be recalled from her/his position as the result of a special election initiated by a recall petition to the Speaker of the Faculty signed by 25% of her/his electorate as defined in Article IV, Section 2D. In the special election the Senator shall be recalled if at least 75% of those eligible to vote for the position have cast a ballot, and if a simple majority of those voting has voted in favor of recall.

G. Vacancies due to resignation, recall or any other reason may be filled by a special election by the appropriate electorate. Senators elected in such special elections will serve out the term of the Senators they replace. If an at-large Senator needs to be replaced, the faculty of that school shall elect the replacement by ballot. No Senator, including replacement Senators, shall serve for more than four consecutive years. (Rev. Jan. 2007, April 2007; Ins. April 2007; Rev. December 2009)

H. Every three years, beginning in the fall semester of 2015, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall request from the Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs the current number of full-time tenured, tenure-track, Instructor, or Senior Instructor employees in each School, based on the October report to the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education. Based on those numbers, the Committee on Nominations and Elections shall use the Huntington-Hill method of apportionment to determine and report, at the January meeting of the Faculty Senate, the allocation of Faculty Senators for each School to be effective at the start of the next fall semester. In the event that a School loses more at-large Faculty Senate seats than it is slated to elect in the spring elections then the at-large senator who has the lowest seniority in terms of service will be removed first; if two or more at-large senators have the same seniority in terms of service, the order of removal shall be based on lowest numbers of votes when elected; in the event of a tie, removal is to be decided by lot. For each reapportionment, the Faculty Senate Secretariat shall record the allocation of Faculty Senators, and the basis of that allocation (number of regular faculty by department and school).