On October 20th, 2015 the Bylaws/FAM Committee reviewed the Motion to Reduce Redundancies in Standing Committees, a proposal introduced to the Faculty Senate at the October 6th, 2015 meeting by Heath Hoffmann. The following is a summary of concerns that were raised in the review of this Motion:

- Only three Standing Senate Committees exist (Academic Planning, Budget, Bylaws-FAM Committees). If more than one of these Standing Senate Committees are commissioned to review an issue or proposal, it is specifically for the purpose of reviewing the issue/proposal within the purview of their committee’s charge.
  - If the intended language was directed towards Standing College Committees, the Motion should be revised to reflect this.

- The Motion provides the Speaker of the Faculty with the sole authority to assign policy/issue to specific Standing Senate Committees, which may not result in a reduction in redundancies.
  - No provisions have been suggested for a Committee to attain representation on an issue if they feel the Speaker of the Faculty has underestimated the scope of the issue.

- In the spirit of shared governance, even if the scope of an issue is redundant across committees, multiple committees weighing in on same issue provides better representation of our large, diverse faculty.

- Committees have been requested to review and revise their charges; this may help reduce redundancies.
  - Although uncommon, committees can request to decline participation on an issue or proposal if they feel the proposal is outside their purview, or if their participation is redundant.

- The Motion contradicts responsibilities assigned to the Provost, as defined by the Campus Wide Policy Formation Procedures (http://policy.cofc.edu):
  - 8.3.b(4): Referred to Faculty Senate or other Working Group (with Senate Representation) The proposal will be referred to a “Working Group” (as defined in Section 9.0) to be established by the Provost with the responsibility to consider the matter and to report back to the Provost by a time certain with recommendations for further action.
  - 9.1(b): A policy proposal may be referred to the Policy Committee by either the President’s Executive Team or, in the case of an academic policy proposal, by the Provost. Alternatively, the proposal may be referred to a Special Working Group (as described in Section 9.2) to review, comment on and make recommendation for final disposition of the proposal. In addition to the foregoing, the Provost may consider the Faculty Senate, or an appropriate Committee of the Faculty Senate, to be a Working Group within the meaning of this Section 9.0.

- Establishing a new procedure between the Provost and Speaker of the Faculty will also require revisions to the FAM cover letter: Statement on Changes to the Faculty/Administration Manual; these revisions would need to be approved by the Provost.

- In Section II.B.2 of the FAM (Administrative Organization: Description of the Administrative organization of the College and Duties of its Officers: Provost/Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs), the Provost is charged "with responsibility for the overall academic program." Furthermore, "[the Provost] is responsible for academic policies...". The Motion potentially limits the Provost's efficacy to meet this responsibility.