COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE

Mandate
The Committee on Governance shall be responsible for faculty appointments to faculty committees and shall coordinate changes in the committee structure. (The Student Senate Appointments Committee, as provided in the Student Senate Constitution, shall name the student members of the faculty committees, and the Board of Trustees and the Alumni Board shall name the members representing them.) There are four situations where the committee should send items to Faculty Senate for information: 1) major changes to committee mandates, 2) committee rosters, 3) the formation of new faculty committees, and 4) the termination of any faculty committees. Specifically, the committee shall:

1. Establish procedures and eligibility guidelines for appointments to faculty committees.
2. Appoint faculty to standing committees, except as provided for by other action (e.g. the Professional Status Committee), soliciting suggestions from the faculty concerning appointments to the various committees.
3. Create ad hoc committees as necessary and appoint faculty to them. (N.B.: The membership of ad hoc committees created by other entities is determined by those entities.)
4. Approve all proposals for creation of new committees or the dissolution of current ones.
5. Oversee the responsibilities and activities of committees and, if necessary, recommend action to the Faculty Senate.
6. Review the faculty's role in the governance of the college every five years and prepare a report that recommends any changes necessary to maintain a dynamic, coherent structure.
7. Supervise all elections.
8. Adjudicate questions of governance that arise regarding issues of process.

Appointment of Chairs
When committee chairs are not indicated in a committee’s mandate, the provost will designate a chair from among members of the committee.

Student Membership and Club Advisor/Mentors
Student membership on committees will be designated by appropriate representatives of the Student Senate. The provost of the college shall appoint mentors and advisors where appropriate.

Reporting Relationship
The Committee on Governance shall report to the Faculty Senate.

Composition
This committee shall consist of

- the Provost of the college;
- the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate, who will chair;
- one member of Student Senate, who shall sit only when matters other than appointments of and eligibility guidelines for faculty members are being considered;
- Four faculty members, who are elected to the committee by the full faculty electorate, one from each of the three academic divisions and one at-large.
1. Eligibility requirements: Faculty (excluding deans and associate deans, who are ineligible) who have served at least eight years at the college and have at least six years of service on faculty governance committees or the Faculty Senate are eligible for election to the committee. Nominees will provide a list of such service to COG; final determination of eligibility to appear on the ballot will be made by COG.

2. Election: Each year the entire faculty electorate will elect a replacement for each outgoing faculty member on the committee from a slate for which each department in the relevant division may submit one nominee from any department in its division; the Committee on Governance may also recruit nominees from the relevant division(s). When the at-large position falls vacant, a replacement will be elected from a slate for which each department in the college may submit one nominee (non-teaching members of the faculty will be regarded as a department for this purpose). The Committee on Governance will solicit nominations for each vacancy and conduct the election by March 1.

3. Term of office: The term of office for faculty members shall normally be for four years, effective September 1. The committee will coordinate staggered terms to ensure continuity; if a faculty member has their term interrupted by a sabbatical, off-campus program directorship, or a leave of absence, the committee will appoint a replacement for the length of absence in consultation with the Dean of that division or the Provost.

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Revised February 2017 by COG (to indicate that deans and associate deans are ineligible)