

ACADEMIC SENATE
of
THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY

AS-2546-01/EX
November 1, 2001

Amendment to the Constitution

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of the California State University (CSU) recommend to the faculty of the CSU the following constitutional amendment regarding Senate membership.

Article II

Section 1. Membership

1. The Academic Senate shall consist of elected campus representatives apportioned as follows:
 - a minimum of two senators from each campus plus one additional senator (for a total of 3) for each campus whose FTEF exceeds the average FTEF (determined by the $1/n$ fraction of the systemwide FTEF, where n is the number of campuses), plus an additional senator (for a total of 4) for any campus whose FTEF exceeds twice the average FTEF (i.e., $2/n$ times the systemwide FTEF)
2. The Academic Senate shall also include:
 - a) the immediate past chair of the Academic Senate if not an elected member (who shall not be counted as a campus representative if not an elected member);
 - b) the Chancellor or representative as an ex-officio non-voting member
 - c) one emerita/emeritus selected by the CSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association
3. The Academic Senate shall have the power, through its by-laws, to resolve issues concerning the implementation of this section (Article II, Section 1.) of the Constitution (membership).

RATIONALE: Senate membership was reduced in the mid 1990s (from 57 to 51) and its total size capped, in response to fiscal exigencies. Since that time new campuses have entered the system, and more are expected. Because of the cap on senate membership new campuses can be accommodated only by removing seats from the larger campuses, resulting in a Senate which will not reflect a balanced compromise between equal campus representation and proportional faculty representation.

This change permits every campus two senators, which is the minimum necessary to achieve organizational continuity of representation for a campus, it assures all campuses with more than the average number of faculty three senators, and it allows for the possibility that a very large campus could grow into a fourth senator. The immediate effects would be a second senator for our smallest campus and the restoration of a third senator to four of those mid-size campuses that lost representation in 1996. The longer term effects of this proposal when compared to the 1995 constitution would be growth restrictive, except for the addition of new campuses, and would stabilize Senate membership well below what would have resulted under the 1995 constitution.

Clause 3 permits the Senate to respond to any practical difficulties that may arise in implementing apportionment and membership issues, such as the timing for creation of new seats, determination of annual reapportionment procedures, establishing staggered elections for new campuses, assuring that any reallocation of a seat occurs at the conclusion of a term of office, etc.

APPROVED – January 24-25, 2002