Premise & Rationale for
Alternative Constitutional Amendment

The Alternate Constitution Committee [ACC] proposes a different path to a new organizational structure than the Senate Restructuring Ad Hoc Committee [SRAHC], and based on the following considered factors:

1. The Senate and its 3 Councils perform redundancy reviews, time-consuming, unnecessary and diverting energies from other important matters. The Councils should govern ourselves through their respective constituencies and accorded the sovereignty of advisement; each gains relevant importance by reporting directly to the President. Distinct from the Senate, Faculty Council represents all academic units as suited to the affairs of faculty and our curricula.

2. There are important matters beyond regulating ourselves, and involving the direction of the University [see Senate Authority below and the attached organizational chart as to advising the President]

3. Both SRAHC and ACC committees would reduce the size of the Senate for the purpose of meaningful participation and discourse, as well as enhanced work and responsibilities. ACC sets this at the size of 23, or the sizing for a large conference table suited to a working body. While adding representation from strategic partners in alumni and the community, per the ACC, faculty retains their majority at 52.2%. SRAHC sets the sizing at 26 with faculty in the minority at 38%, equal to professional personnel.

4. We broaden Senate representation to resemble how the University should operate through constituencies who serve [faculty, professional staff] and are served [students, alumni, community stakeholders] by the University, and as a measure of legitimacy, influence and effectiveness. Such scope is reflected in the University’s Strategic Plan.

5. Pleased and prepared to meet with any academic or professional unit, and as of 11-1-2018 was approved to meet with the three councils by unanimous vote of Governance & Elections...but denied by Senate Agenda Committee on 1-7-2019; welcome comments at bfrankel@bsu.edu [5-5869]

Authorities

University Senate
University Senate shall advise the President, as follows:

a. Strategic Plan/ Financial & Budgetary Plan of the University [two new standing committees of the Senate], its planning process conduct, its formulation, and its performance in effective implementation as a central means of directing the University, reforming programs and institutional components, and advancing purposeful innovations.

b. All matters outside the authorities of the three Councils; those that bridge two or more Council authorities may be handled by joint committees and resolutions of those bodies, and any council may seek when useful the endorsement of the Senate.

Faculty Council
Faculty Council shall advise the President as to all matters affecting faculty.

Student Council[s]
Student Council shall advise the President as to all matters affecting students. Proposing a graduate student organization as heretofore unrepresented or as to be represented by Student Council [SGA]

Professional Personnel Council
Professional Staff Council shall advise the President as to all matters affecting professional staff and administrative matters