

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 sizes 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