



UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON RULES AND JURISDICTION (UCR&J)  
Anne Slavotinek, Chair  
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Assembly of the Academic Senate  
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January 26, 2015

**EDWINA BARVOSA, CHAIR**  
**UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES**

**RE: Proposed Revisions to SBL 128.D.2 (Vice Chairs)**

Dear Edwina,

The University Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction has evaluated the proposed revisions to SBL 128.D.2 (Vice Chairs), which would make the vice chairs of all standing systemwide committees at-large members. UCR&J finds the proposal consistent with the Code of the Academic Senate.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Anne Slavotinek".

Anne Slavotinek, UCR&J Chair

Copy: UCR&J  
Mary Gilly, Chair, Academic Council  
Hilary Baxter, Executive Director, Academic Senate

### **Justification for Revisions to Bylaw 128.D.2: Vice Chairs**

The proposed revision to bylaw 128D.2 regularizes the standing committee Vice Chairs such that non-Council committees will now have Vice Chairs that serve at large in the same manner as the Council represented committees. This revision will directly affect six committees: UCAF, UCIE, UCOLASC, UCOPE, UCP&T, and UCACC.

In recent years, the University Committee on Committees (UCOC) has run into difficulty appointing non-Council vice chairs who are also members of their local corresponding Divisional committees. Bylaw 128.D.2 currently reads “for committees not represented on the Academic Council, with the exception of the University Committee on Committees, the Vice Chair shall be appointed from among the Divisional appointees.” This bylaw has proved problematic for both reasons of timing and principle. With respect to timing, UCOC’s chair and vice chair appointments are made synchronously with local appointments to standing committees. Therefore, it is sometimes difficult to know if a UCOC-appointed vice chair will indeed be a divisional representative for the following year. In recent memory, there have been at least three cases in which this bylaw has caused problems.

With respect to principle, it is in the best interest of the Divisions to have a regular rotation of Senate members through their divisional committees to bring in new talent and fresh perspectives. On the other hand, one of UCOC’s principal interests is to develop and maintain effective faculty leaders. As currently written, bylaw 128.D.2 restricts this, given that UCOC is limited to current divisional committee members in selecting vice chairs for the non-Council committees. A tangential issue involves the possible conflict when the vice chair must substitute for the chair at a committee meeting while still representing his or her division. Therefore, it is useful and desired to allow for a vice chair to serve as an at-large member.

UCOC therefore proposes to make all vice chairs at-large members, regardless of whether the committee sits on Academic Council or not.

## Proposed Revised Bylaw 128.D.2: Vice Chairs (red-line)

### **128. Membership of Standing Committees of the Assembly** (En 28 May 2003)

Unless otherwise specified in the establishing bylaws for a committee, the following shall govern the membership of all Assembly committees except the Academic Council.

- A. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Assembly shall serve as *ex officio* members of the University Committee on Committees and as non-voting *ex officio* members of all committees except for the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction.
  
- B. Each Division of the Academic Senate shall nominate to UCOC one Division member to be appointed to the following committees to serve a two-year term. [See Bylaw 150]. This member shall normally be the chair or a member of the corresponding Divisional committee; otherwise, the Assembly committee member shall serve as an *ex officio* non-voting member of the corresponding Divisional committee.
  - Academic Freedom
  - Academic Personnel
  - Affirmative Action and Diversity
  - Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools
  - Committees
  - Educational Policy
  - Information Technology and Telecommunication Policy
  - International Education
  - Faculty Welfare
  - Graduate Affairs, Coordinating Committee on
  - Library and Scholarly Communication
  - Planning and Budget
  - Privilege and Tenure
  - Research Policy
  - Preparatory Education
  
- C. The Chair of each of the above committees shall be an at-large member, who is a former, but not a present member of the corresponding committee of any division. The Chair shall normally serve a one-year term. (Am 10 Apr 2013)
  
- D. Vice Chairs
  1. ~~For the University Committee on Committees and for committees represented on the Academic Council,~~ The Vice Chair shall be an at-large member who has experience as a member of the corresponding Divisional committee. The Vice Chair shall normally succeed the Chair subject to the approval of UCOC. [See Table 1]
  2. ~~For committees not represented on the Academic Council, with the exception of the University Committee on Committees, the Vice Chair shall be appointed from among the Divisional appointees. The Vice Chair shall normally succeed the Chair subject to the approval of UCOC. [See Table 2]~~
  3. The Vice Chair must be a Senate member from a Division other than that of the Chair.
  
- E. Students who sit with standing committees, as provided in these bylaws, are non-voting representatives and shall be nominated by the student organization recognized by the Academic Council for that purpose and appointed by the University Committee on Committees.

- F. Term: In no case shall members serve for more than four consecutive years with the exception of the Chair and Vice Chair who may serve no more than six years. A member is again eligible one year after leaving the committee. A partial term is counted as a full term.
- G. Quorum. Fifty percent of the voting members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- H. Members holding an administrative position higher than department chair may not serve as members of Assembly committees. However, Department Chairs may serve on Assembly Committees, with the exception of the Committee on Academic Personnel, the Committee on Academic Freedom and the University Committee on Privilege and Tenure.
- I. A standing committee of the Assembly may appoint one or more subcommittees or task forces, which must always report back to the main committee, but the University Committee on Committees must appoint all subcommittee or task force members who are not already members of any standing committee of the Assembly. (En 11 May 2005)

**Proposed Revised Bylaw 128.D.2: Vice Chairs (clean)**

**128. Membership of Standing Committees of the Assembly (En 28 May 2003)**

Unless otherwise specified in the establishing bylaws for a committee, the following shall govern the membership of all Assembly committees except the Academic Council.

- C. The Chair and Vice Chair of the Assembly shall serve as *ex officio* members of the University Committee on Committees and as non-voting *ex officio* members of all committees except for the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction.
  
- D. Each Division of the Academic Senate shall nominate to UCOC one Division member to be appointed to the following committees to serve a two-year term. [See Bylaw 150]. This member shall normally be the chair or a member of the corresponding Divisional committee; otherwise, the Assembly committee member shall serve as an *ex officio* non-voting member of the corresponding Divisional committee.
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  - Academic Personnel
  - Affirmative Action and Diversity
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  - Graduate Affairs, Coordinating Committee on
  - Library and Scholarly Communication
  - Planning and Budget
  - Privilege and Tenure
  - Research Policy
  - Preparatory Education
  
- E. The Chair of each of the above committees shall be an at-large member, who is a former, but not a present member of the corresponding committee of any division. The Chair shall normally serve a one-year term. (Am 10 Apr 2013)
  
- F. Vice Chairs
  1. The Vice Chair shall be an at-large member who has experience as a member of the corresponding Divisional committee. The Vice Chair shall normally succeed the Chair subject to the approval of UCOC. [See Table 1]
  2. The Vice Chair must be a Senate member from a Division other than that of the Chair.
  
- J. Students who sit with standing committees, as provided in these bylaws, are non-voting representatives and shall be nominated by the student organization recognized by the Academic Council for that purpose and appointed by the University Committee on Committees.
  
- K. Term: In no case shall members serve for more than four consecutive years with the exception of the Chair and Vice Chair who may serve no more than six years. A member is again eligible one year after leaving the committee. A partial term is counted as a full term.

- L. Quorum. Fifty percent of the voting members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum.
- M. Members holding an administrative position higher than department chair may not serve as members of Assembly committees. However, Department Chairs may serve on Assembly Committees, with the exception of the Committee on Academic Personnel, the Committee on Academic Freedom and the University Committee on Privilege and Tenure.
- N. A standing committee of the Assembly may appoint one or more subcommittees or task forces, which must always report back to the main committee, but the University Committee on Committees must appoint all subcommittee or task force members who are not already members of any standing committee of the Assembly. (En 11 May 2005)