

ADVICE ON REPRESENTATION OF THE SCHOOL OF NURSING
ON THE REPRESENTATIVE ASSEMBLY

Committee on Elections, Rules and Jurisdiction
November 17, 2009

According to information available to the Committee, at this time the School of Nursing has not been established as an academic unit, and the one Senate member who is overseeing the establishment of the School holds an appointment in the School of Medicine. According to Davis Division Bylaw 34, that Senate member is represented in the Representative Assembly by the department of which she is a member.

Any Senate member has the privileges of attending and speaking in Assembly meetings. However, only representatives may make motions or vote.

In order for the School of Nursing to gain its own representation in the Assembly, it must first be constituted in such a way that it has at least one department (or the School itself may function as a department, as is the case with the School of Law).

Once the administrative structure is in place, there are two possibilities. The first is that the department has at least thirteen members. In that case, the department is entitled to elect its own representative. The second is that the department has fewer than thirteen members. In that case, the department may combine with Senate faculty outside the department to form a “constituency” that would elect a representative.

If there already exists a School of Nursing with faculty appointments in it, or when the School of Nursing is established and Senate faculty are appointed in that School, the Senate office should be notified, and the process of electing a representative may begin. It appears, given the recruitment going on at this time, that the threshold of thirteen Senate members will not be met initially, in which case a constituency would have to be formed. The Senate office will assist in the establishment of a constituency.