

**Two Proposed Amendments to Article IX.
Faculty Representatives to Other Faculty Organizations
of the Salisbury University Faculty Senate Bylaws**

by Dave Parker, 27 August 2013

Rationale

There are two state-wide organizations, the Council of University System Faculty and the Maryland Higher Education Commission Faculty Advisory Council, to which the SU Faculty elect representatives. Nearly every year matters which affect the faculty arise at the State level, and our faculty's voice is clearly diminished if we are not present.

What appears in our current Bylaws (included below) is neither accurate nor informative. The constitution and/or bylaws of those groups operate largely outside SU control, and such matters as the number of representatives from SU, the terms of our representatives, etc. are all controlled by these organizations - clearly outside the control of the SU Faculty. Changes have occurred since our Bylaws were first adopted and will likely occur in the future, but what now appears in the Faculty Senate Bylaws for these two organizations is completely out-of-date and does not represent what we are actually doing as we elect our representatives.

Rather than simply doing a "quick fix" for their descriptions in the Bylaws, I proposing that we acknowledge the reality of their structures and functions. Moreover, I propose we include a brief description of them as well as links to their most current documents. Those proposed amendments appear below. Hopefully these changes will not need to be revisited for many years - if ever.

What is presently in the Bylaws does little to inform faculty members about what these organizations do, and we should take this opportunity to correct that oversight. Where and when do they meet - and how often? What are their responsibilities? To whom do they report? How much traveling is required? Where is more detailed information to be found?

Additionally I've included the language that recently was added to the Faculty Senate webpage for these two organizations, although that language is NOT part of the proposed amendments. (We are free to amend this language at any time because it is not part of the Bylaws, and this will hopefully help faculty members decide if they are interested in serving in either organization.)

First Proposed Amendment to Article IX:

Present wording in our Bylaws:

Section 1. University System of Maryland (USM) Faculty Council:

The Faculty shall elect at-large two members of the Faculty to the USM Faculty Council for three-year terms.

Comment: The name listed was once correct, but not any longer. In addition we now have three representatives and an alternate whom we should elect. Finally, there is no explanation of what CUSF actually does, where and when it meets, etc.

Proposed Amendment:

Section 1. Council of University System Faculty (CUSF):

CUSF consists of faculty representatives elected by the faculties of the constituent institutions of the University System of Maryland, with the number of each institution's CUSF representatives determined by its number of full-time faculty members. CUSF advises and makes recommendations to the Chancellor and also reports regularly to the Board of Regents on matters of System-wide professional and educational concern to the faculty and on matters to which faculty bring special expertise. Additional information is available on the System website: <http://www.usmd.edu/> .

Not part of the amendment is this text which appears on the Faculty Senate Website where the members of CUSF are listed, thereby providing additional information to interested faculty members: "CUSF has monthly, day-long meetings from September through May/June at different USM campuses: www.usmd.edu/usm/workgroups/SystemFaculty/."

Second Proposed Amendment to Article IX:

Present wording in our Bylaws:

Section 2. Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Faculty Advisory Committee:

The Faculty shall elect at-large one member of the Faculty as the representative or alternate to the MHEC Faculty Advisory Committee for a term of two years. Salisbury University and Frostburg State University share the official representative with a term of two years per institution. The alternate, non-voting participant would be elected whenever Frostburg State University has the official representative.

Comment: The MHEC FAC information above is essentially correct, but there is nothing indicating its function. Moreover its membership structure could be changed at any time. Finally, there is no explanation of what MHEC FAC actually does, where and when it meets, etc.

Proposed Amendment:

Section 2. Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) Faculty Advisory Council (FAC):

MHEC FAC consists of delegates elected from among and representing full-time and adjunct faculty in all segments of higher education in Maryland: public and independent colleges and universities, for-profit institutions, and proprietary schools and colleges. MHEC FAC advises the Secretary of Higher Education and the MHEC on policies affecting higher education in Maryland, particularly those of concern to faculty.

**Additional information is available on the MHEC website:
<http://www.mhec.state.md.us/higherEd/acadAff/advisory.asp> .**

Not part of the amendment is this text which appears on the Faculty Senate Website where the members of MHEC FAC are listed, thereby providing additional information to interested faculty members: "MHEC FAC meets monthly every third Tuesday, from September through May at Anne Arundel Community College. SU and FSU share a delegate, changing annually: www.fac-mhec.csmd.edu/."