

**University Faculty Senate
Governance Committee
155th Plenary
SUNY New Paltz
April 24, 2010**

**Resolution on *Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting*
APPROVED AS AMENDED**

Introduction:

The Governance Committee of University Faculty Senate was asked by the Vice-President/Secretary to consider Document 8400, *Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting*. After some consideration, two issues were considered by the Committee: 1) proportionally larger faculty representation for larger campuses; and 2) the nature of the document as guidelines. Note that additional issues related to the search process will be examined by the committee at another time.

Background, *Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting*

Item 2 in Preliminary “Steps in the Search Process” reads, “Unless otherwise agreed upon in advance by the chancellor and the council chair, the search committee shall consist of four members of the council (including the chair), six members of the full-time teaching faculty of the campus, one student, one alumni representative, one campus-related foundation representative, one academic dean, and one professional or support staff member.”

Item 4 in Preliminary Steps in the Search Process in Document 8400 reads, “Taking care to assure that faculty representation on the search committee speaks for a broad spectrum of faculty opinion, the faculty shall elect its representatives to the search committee by secret ballot at an open session of the faculty governance group, at which a quorum of the teaching faculty are present.”

The Governance Committee has been advised by SUNY Legal Counsel that during any presidential search there is close communication between the Chancellor's office, the Search committee chair and the College Council chair. Any modifications to the Guidelines are discussed with the Office of the Chancellor.

Resolution:

Resolved, the University Faculty Senate recommends the Chancellor advance to the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York that the name of Document 8400 in the Policy Manual, *Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting* be changed to *Presidential Searches, Requirements for Conducting*.

Be it further resolved that the Chancellor recommend to the State University Board of Trustees that the portion of Document 8400 that reads “Taking care to assure that faculty representation on the search committee speaks for a broad spectrum of faculty opinion, the faculty shall elect its representatives to the search committee by secret ballot at an open session of the faculty governance group, at which a

quorum of the teaching faculty are present” should be amended to read, “Taking care to assure that faculty representation on the search committee speaks for a broad spectrum of faculty opinion, the teaching faculty shall elect its representatives to the search committee by secret ballot in a process developed in consultation with the campus governance body.”

Be it further resolved, the University Faculty Senate supports the minimum constituents of search committees as suggested in the *Presidential Searches, Guidelines for Conducting*, including “six members of the full-time teaching faculty of the campus,” but also encourages the consideration by the Chancellor of additional faculty representation on presidential search committees.. The appointment of additional members by the chairperson should be done in consultation with the campus governance body.

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Passed without Dissent

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