



To: Faculty Senate
From: Governance Committee
Re: Restatement of Faculty By-Laws
Date: April 15, 2015

The Governance Committee of the University of Faculty Senate submits the attached Restated By-Laws of the University of Cincinnati Faculty for approval by the University Faculty. We have also attached: (i) a copy of the existing bylaws, (ii) an annotated version of the existing By-Laws that contains references showing where provisions in the previous By-Laws appear in the Restated version, and (iv) a redlined document that shows all of the changes made.

Tasked in part with reviewing and updating the By-Laws, the Governance Committee determined last year that the time had come to re-organize and modernize the By-Laws in order to create a more readable and user friendly document. The rationale behind this project is simple – a more accessible document leads to more involved self-governance by the faculty. Over the past several years, amendments to the By-Laws have been made to correct deficiencies. As these amendments have added up, it has become clear that a fresh start with respect to the By-Laws would be of great service to the faculty.

To that end, we have embarked on a year-long process to review the existing By-Laws and draft a restated version. In doing so, we made the decision to focus on format and organization rather than substance. Throughout the process, we have received feedback from members of our committee, the Faculty Cabinet, and the Faculty Senate. A number of the comments received from these stakeholders have been incorporated in the Restated By-Laws.

Apart from a few exceptions noted below, the Restated By-Laws do not make any substantive change to the By-Laws. Our determination is that the readability and organization of the document is a necessary first step before substantive changes can be made. Accordingly, it is our hope that a more streamlined document will eventually lead to more robust self-governance in the future.

The substantive changes made to the By-Laws are as follows:

1. The words "*or until his/her successor shall be elected*" were removed from the description of the office of Secretary in Section 2.3.c. of the Restated By-Laws.

This change was made because these words are not used in the previous By-Laws with respect to any other elected position.

2. The sentence "*The committee shall also administer award selection processes and Faculty recognition.*" was added to the description of the duties of the Human Relations Committee in Section 3.6.b.5.(b) of the Restated By-Laws. This change was made to more accurately describe the functions of the committee.
3. The words "*including distance learning and online courses*" were added to the description of the duties of the Information Technology Committee in Section 3.6.b.6.(b) of the Restated By-Laws. This change was made to more accurately describe the functions of the committee.

The Governance Committee recommends that the University Faculty adopts the Amended and Restated By-Laws.

Respectfully,



Sean Mangan
Governance Committee Chairperson

