

## DOCUMENTS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

**REVISED PROPOSAL TO RESTRUCTURE THE STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE INTO TWO SEPARATE COMMITTEES WITH TWO SEPARATE FUNCTIONS**

On behalf of the Student Life and Activities Committee, committee chair, Martha Hilley (music), submitted the following proposal to split the committee into two separate committees with two separate functions and compositions. The rationale is provided in the attached impact statement. The committee approved the proposal on March 31, 2015.

On November 17, 2014, the Faculty Council voted to table a proposal to split the Student Life and Activities Committee into two separate committees (D 11935-11938). As a result of meetings with the leaders in athletics, the Intercollegiate Athletics Councils, and the Faculty Council Executive Committee, the committee is recommending the proposed changes outlined below. The Committee on Committees endorsed the proposed changes on April 1, 2015.

The secretary has classified this proposal as legislation of *general* interest. The Faculty Council will consider the proposal at its meeting on April 13, 2015. Final approval resides with the president.

Handwritten signature of Dean Neikirk, Secretary, General Faculty and Faculty Council. The signature is written in black ink and includes the initials "SGF" at the end.

Dean Neikirk, Secretary  
General Faculty and Faculty Council

## **REVISED PROPOSAL TO RESTRUCTURE THE STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE INTO TWO SEPARATE COMMITTEES WITH TWO SEPARATE FUNCTIONS**

The Student Life and Activities Committee of the General Faculty proposes revising structure of this committee into two separate committees with two separate functions:

### **1. B3 Student Life Committee**

**FUNCTION:** The purpose of the Student Life Committee is to identify issues, act as a sounding board for student proposals, and facilitate formal communication with Faculty Council.

**COMPOSITION:** Three members elected at large from and by the voting members of the General Faculty for three-year staggered terms. Three student members shall be appointed by the president, one each from a panel of names submitted by the Graduate Student Assembly, Student Government, and Senate of College Councils. In addition, every year the chair of the Faculty Council shall appoint two voting faculty members of the Faculty Council for one-year terms. Each year, the committee shall elect its own chair and vice chair, who shall be voting faculty members of the committee.

### **2. B4 Student Athletes and Activities Committee**

**FUNCTION:** The purpose of Student Athletes and Activities Committee is to maintain a formal communication channel between the faculty and student athletes; and, ~~[between the faculty and the Athletics Department]~~ to advise the President on matters pertaining to student athletes.<sup>1</sup>

**COMPOSITION:** Three members elected at large from and by the voting members of the General Faculty for three-year staggered terms. Two faculty members shall be appointed for one-year terms by the president, one each from among the faculty currently serving on the Intercollegiate Athletics Council for Men and the Intercollegiate Athletics Council for Women. Two student athlete members, one each from men's and women's athletics, will be appointed by the president from a list submitted by the Student Athletes Advisory Council. In addition, every year the chair of the Faculty Council shall appoint two voting faculty members of the Faculty Council for one-year terms. The Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) shall serve on the committee in an advisory capacity. Each year, the committee shall elect its own chair and vice chair, who shall be voting faculty members of the committee. The faculty-appointed representative to the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) will be invited to serve as an ex-officio member.

**Rationale for the Change:** Over the past several years, members of the Student Life and Activities Committee have expressed confusion over the mission of the committee: Is the committee focused on the student services and activities of all students at the University (this includes graduate students and undergraduates); or is the focus to be on student athletes' welfare? This confusion is exacerbated by a lack of a charge or specific mandate. We recognize that issues surrounding both of these foci are important to the Faculty Council and its interest in student welfare, yet the issues are very different. Currently, there is no committee with the specific mandate to report to the Faculty Council about student athletics, and committee members have observed that the importance and scope of these issues warrants a uniquely focused committee. The proposed configuration would create a formal communication channel between the faculty and student athletes and between the faculty and the Athletics Department.

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<sup>1</sup>On April 29, 2015, the proposal was amended upon the recommendations of the Faculty Council at its meeting on April 13, 2015. The Student Life and Activities Committee subsequently endorsed the changes.

**POLICY IMPACT STATEMENT FOR  
FACULTY LEGISLATION IMPACTING THE HOP**

Please submit one Policy Impact Statement for each policy under consideration.

Submission Date: April 6, 2015

Sponsor: Faculty Council

Contact within Faculty Council Office: Debbie Roberts x1-8506

Executive Level Sponsor: Executive Vice President and Provost

Corresponding Faculty Legislation Number: D 12174-12175

Policy Memorandum (PM) Title: Standing Committees of the General Faculty-Student Services and Activities Committees

HOP # (if revision): 2-1070-PM (formerly HOP 1.502)

**I. Background and Policy Rationale**

**A. Why is this policy or revision necessary?**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Legal   | <input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory         | <input type="checkbox"/> UT System driven                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial   | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Requirement | <input type="checkbox"/> Operational/Operational Efficiency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Current University policy is outdated                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Technological      |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Restructuring of the Student Life and Activities. |   |   |

**B. Please provide a brief supporting explanation.**

Over the past several years, members of the Student Life and Activities Committee have expressed confusion over the mission of the committee: Is the committee focused on the student services and activities of all students at the University (this includes graduate students and undergraduates); or is the focus to be on student athletes' welfare? This confusion is exacerbated by a lack of a charge or specific mandate. We recognize that issues surrounding both of these foci are important to the Faculty Council and its interest in student welfare, yet the issues are very different. Currently, there is no committee with the specific mandate to report to the Faculty Council about student athletics, and committee members have observed that the importance and scope of these issues warrants a uniquely focused committee.

**C. What foreseeable advantages will this policy bring to the University?**

The proposed configuration would create a formal communication channel between the faculty and student athletes and between the faculty and the Athletics Department.

**II. Policy Impact**

**List University community members affected by this policy:** Undergraduate students, Faculty Council, student governing bodies, student athletes, and intercollegiate athletics programs.

**III. Policy Development & Approval**

**A. Identify key stakeholders, affected parties and governance groups who have been consulted in review of this faculty legislation:**

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>General Faculty Standing Committee:</b> Student Life and Activities Committee |   |   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faculty Council Executive Committee  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Faculty Council | <input type="checkbox"/> Provost's Office |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> University Policy Office   | <input type="checkbox"/> Legal Affairs              |   |

**B. Institutional approval of this policy memoranda amendment resides with:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive Vice President and Provost | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President |
|---|---|

Preliminary review and recommendation for approval provided by the Faculty Council Executive Committee and the Committee on Committees.

**C. Following institutional approval, this faculty legislation requires:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> UT System review and approval | <input type="checkbox"/> UT System notification |
|--|---|

**No further notification required**

Attached to this Policy Impact Statement form is the proposed policy showing tracked revisions. If this is a new policy, label it as "New" in the header box of the policy.

Submitted by:  SGF

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*Authorized Signature- Responsible Policy Owner*

April 6, 2015  
*Date*

**Questions about this form may be directed to: Leekeshia Williams,**  
<mailto:leekeshia.williams@austin.utexas.edu>, or by calling 471-0594.

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**For University Policy Office Administrative Review Below**

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Assigned Policy Office Case Number: \_\_\_\_\_