



Senate Operations Review Committee
September 24, 2009

Report on the Composition of the Senate

Introduction

On March 29, 2001 Senate approved a recommendation directing the Senate Operations Review Committee (SORC) to monitor and review the composition of Senate on a regular basis given anticipated changes in enrolment over the next several years. Subsequently, on February 27, 2003 Senate approved the following Motions:

1. that Faculty seats in Senate be apportioned among the various Schools and Faculties at Queen's on the basis of each School's or Faculty's percentage of total full-time student enrolments;
- 2.

Analysis and Discussion

SORC acknowledges that the composition of the Senate is somewhat an analogy of how Queen's is organized as an institution into faculties, schools and the Theological College. Early on in its discussions, SORC reaffirmed the historic principle that faculty should retain the majority voice on Senate. It also reaffirmed that the projected enrolment model approved in 2003 continues to be the best model because:

- Enrolment numbers are public and readily available;
- Using projected enrolment numbers allows for an action plan that is proactive;
- The University Registrar has a proven record for predicting enrolment;
- Factoring in part time enrolment or using FTEs does not have a material effect on the seat allocation.

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Conclusions/Recommendations

The following recommendations reflect the findings of SORC in May 2009. They are provided to the Senate for information and for the record. They are not proposed for action at this time pending the anticipated broad review of governance matters.

- 1) The Senate Operations Review Committee recommends that the number of faculty senator seats be increased from 36 to 37. The allocation will be: Applied Science 4; Arts and Science 16; Business 3; Education 1; Graduate Studies 7; Health Sciences 4; Law 1 and Theological College 1, effective September 1, 2010.
- 2) The Senate Operations Review Committee recommends that the number of student senator seats be increased from 16 to 17. The allocation will be: Applied Science 2; Arts and Science 5; Business 2; Education 1; Graduate Studies 3; Health Sciences 2; Law 1 and Theological College 1, effective September 1, 2010.
- 3) The Senate Operations Review Committee recommends that the length of term for faculty and staff Senators be a two-year renewable term, for those whose terms begin September 1, 2010 and beyond.

Respectfully submitted

J. Stairs, Chair, SORC

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