

## Section VII.B.

### Current Language

#### 2a. Elected Members

a. Eligibility -- Full-time faculty members as defined in Article II, Section B, all department chairs regardless of teaching load, and full-time faculty holding visiting rank shall be eligible for election to the Senate.

### Suggested Revision

#### 2a. Elected Members

a. Eligibility -- **Faculty members who are full-time faculty members** as defined in Article II, Section B, department chairs regardless of teaching load, **or full-time faculty holding visiting rank and who have been employed as full-time faculty members at Eastern Kentucky University for a minimum of two years** shall be eligible for election to the Senate.

Rationale: Membership in the faculty senate is an important responsibility, requiring both knowledge of the university organization and administrative procedures and the willingness to speak openly about university issues without fear of repercussions. Faculty members who have not been at the university for at least two years often are not knowledgeable of the university organization and administration and are also often reticent to speak openly about university issues because they fear repercussions from others within the university. Requiring faculty to have been at the university in a full-time faculty position for three years will obviate some of these pressures and create more knowledgeable freshman senators who are willing to raise their voice in disagreement to represent their constituents.

### FURTHER REVISION

#### 2. Elected Members

- a. Eligibility - Full time faculty members as defined in Article II, Section B, all department chairs regardless of teaching load, and full time faculty holding visiting rank shall be eligible for election to the Senate.
- b. Election Units - The election units for the selection of the elected membership of the Senate shall be the academic departments of the several colleges of the University having a total full time Teaching/Research Faculty membership of five or more. Additional election units shall consist of (1) the Library Faculty, who are not included in the faculties of a college, and (2) the Deans of the Academic Colleges, Dean of Graduate Studies, and Dean of Libraries (hereafter referred to as the Dean's Unit).
- c. ~~All individuals eligible for election to the Faculty Senate shall be eligible to vote in a Faculty Senate election. An individual~~ **Full-time faculty** shall be eligible to cast a ballot for Senate members only in that election unit in which the individual holds the academic rank of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, Visiting Professor, Visiting Associate Professor, Visiting Assistant Professor, or Visiting Instructor.
- d.

Rationale: The aforementioned handbook change makes full-time faculty who have only been at the university one or two years ineligible to vote in a faculty senate election by VII.2.c. As such, we feel that striking that language avoids any confusion and also allows full-time faculty with one or two years at the university to vote in faculty senate elections.