ACADEMIC SENATE
Resolution 20/21-03
Academic Senate Representation

WHEREAS the Senate’s Constitution, Art. IV, states in relevant part:

Section 1. The Academic Senate is the representative body of the faculty at large for university-wide issues.

Section 2. The voting members of the Academic Senate are: (a) the elected president or one other elected member of the faculty council in each school, the College, and each Division in the College (or the closest equivalent elected faculty officer, by whatever title); (b) additional delegates from the school faculty councils, selected as provided in Section 4 below; (c) the executive officers of the faculty and Members at Large of the Executive Board.

Section 3. The University Libraries and the Retired Faculty Association shall each be represented in the Academic Senate as separate entities.

Section 4. The faculty of each school, by referendum, will decide how the additional delegates from that school to the Academic Senate will be selected. Unless a school decides otherwise, they will be selected from among those the faculty elects to the school’s faculty council.

Section 5. The total size of the Academic Senate will be at least 40 and not more than 80 members. . . . Apportionment of additional delegates will take into account the proportionate size of the faculty in each school.

but nowhere states how “schools” are determined, nor how the number of any additional delegates is to be determined.

WHEREAS the University Bylaw 9.1 lists the “Schools and Colleges of the University” as:

(a) USC Dana and David Dornsife College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences
    USC School of International Relations
    USC School of Philosophy
    USC School of Religion
(b) USC Graduate School
(c) USC Bovard College
(d) USC School of Architecture
(e) USC Gordon S. Marshall School of Business
(f) USC Elaine and Kenneth Leventhal School of Accounting
(g) USC School of Cinematic Arts
(h) USC Jimmy Iovine and Andre Young Academy – Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation
(i) USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
(j) USC Glorya Kaufman School of Dance
(k) Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC
WHEREAS we must balance the benefits of a smaller Senate (better deliberation) and a larger one (better representativity);

WHEREAS the Senate believes that to have reasonably proportional representation, larger schools should have more than one senator, but no one school should constitute more than one-third of the Senate;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT to the Senate’s Bylaws shall added Bylaw 19:

Bylaw 19: Senate representation.

A. Every “school” that (a) is listed in University Bylaw 9.1 and (b) has its own faculty, and (c) has an established Faculty Council shall have at least one elected senator (elected in accordance to the USC Academic Senate Constitution and By-Laws) serving on the Senate. Pursuant to this rule, the Graduate School does not have a senator because it does not have any independent faculty.

In addition, because the Libraries and the Retired Faculty Association have faculty who are not affiliated with any “school,” but who are actively engaged in teaching, research and/or service at the university, both of those units shall have an elected senator representing them on the Senate (in accordance with Senate’s Constitution, Art. IV).

B. Senate representation should be based on the total number of Tenure/Tenure-Track and RTPC faculty who work at least 50% time at USC.

C. The number of Senators for each school shall be determined using the following scale based on the total number of Tenure/Tenure-Track and RTPC faculty who work at least 50% time at USC:

\[
\begin{align*}
<200 &= 1 \\
200 < 300 &= 2 \\
300 < 400 &= 3 \\
400 < 500 &= 4 \\
500 < 600 &= 5 \\
600 < 700 &= 6 \\
700 < 800 &= 7
\end{align*}
\]
D. The allocation of Senators will be reevaluated every five academic years based on a moving average of the past five years’ headcounts.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER THAT, since using this new scale will raise the number of voting Senators by from 35 to 46 and the total number of voting and non-voting Senators from 75 to 86, the Senate Constitution Article IV, Section 5, shall be amended to read in part:

Section 5. The total size of the Academic Senate, including both voting and non-voting Senators, will be at least 40 and not more than 100 members.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER THAT Faculty Councils are encouraged to divide voting senator positions among within-school programs or divisions, and to coordinate updates, communication with EB, and other reporting accordingly.

Resolution Number: 20/21-03
Motion by: Executive Board
Date: Dec 16, 2020
Second Read and Vote: January 20, 2021

Action taken: