

**April 21, 2014**

Division of Biomedical  
Sciences  
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**To:** Jose Wudka, Chair Riverside Division  
**From:** Ameae Walker, Chair SOM executive committee  
**Re:** Proposed changes to bylaws of the Riverside Division

The SOM executive committee discussed the proposed changes at its meeting, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. While the aim of the proposal to reduce the potential for situations presenting conflict of interest was recognized, there were two points of concern raised about the proposed changes:

- 1) It is sometimes difficult to recruit sufficient individuals to serve on academic senate committees, and even more difficult to persuade people to chair them. While most administrators would be expected to have limited time to chair a committee, excluding the possibility that they can serve in this capacity reduces flexibility in filling a need. Of course, if an administrator were to serve in this capacity, the conflict of interest statement from the committee would have to be very explicit about circumstances that represented a real or perceived conflict.
- 2) Who would and who wouldn't be considered an administrator needs to be defined. Some consider Chairs of departments to be administrators, while others do not. Even at the dean level, does any percentage appointment disqualify? Etc.

SOM Executive Committee  
Ameae Walker, Chair  
Paul Lyons, Vice Chair  
Monica Carson  
Iryna Ethell  
David Lo  
Christian Lytle  
Ilhem Messaoudi  
Neal Schiller  
Emma Wilson  
Mahendr Kochar (clinical)  
Emma Simmons (clinical)  
Richard Olds (ex officio)  
Phyllis Guze (ex officio)