



April 10, 2017

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Bill Gary, Chair  
Committee on Preparatory Education

Re: Proposed Changes to Senate Bylaw 1.2

The Committee on Preparatory Education reviewed the proposed changes to Senate Bylaw 1.2. Concern was expressed that the Committee was given only a short amount of time to review the proposal and to provide a response, leaving insufficient time to schedule a face-to-face meeting. The Committee expressed the opinion that such a change in the voting rights should not be rushed.

Committee members noted that designated administrators in Bylaw 1.1 are Senate members and thereby deemed eligible to vote in the assembled Senate. As a result, the Committee was generally perplexed by the proposal to revoke the voting rights of said administrators in their roles as ex officio members of Senate Committees. The Committee noted that, following long-standing practice, ex officio members currently do not participate in Committee votes if they represent a potential conflict of interest, and the administrator's votes have been very welcome and legitimate on matters of general concern. The Committee was not, in general, convinced by the arguments that were presented in favor of change: they were addressing a problem that has not existed on the Committee. Also, for some members of the Committee, the proposal seemed contrary to the notion of shared governance.

Thus there were objections to the proposal by some members of the committee. The opinions expressed were not, however, unanimous. While all but one ex-officio member was against the proposal, around half the regular members were in favor, including one regular member who was strongly in favor.