

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST BAY

DESIGNATION CODE: 2011-12 BEC 4 rev

DATE SUBMITTED: September 27, 2011

REVISED: November 8, 2011

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: The Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

SUBJECT: Proposal to modify the Constitution and Bylaws to require lower voter participation in elections to modify the Constitution & Bylaws

PURPOSE: For approval by the Academic Senate

ACTION

REQUESTED: That the Academic Senate approve the ExCom proposal below which lowers the requirement for faculty participation in elections asking for modifications to the Constitution and Bylaws; effective upon the approval of the regular faculty on an upcoming ballot.

BACKGROUND

INFORMATION: In recent years it has been extremely difficult to obtain the participation of a majority of the faculty in an election. After 3 times on the ballot, a recent proposed amendment was finally approved, after having received no objections from the faculty on any of the election attempts. Passage failed twice, due solely to lack of adequate faculty participation in the election.

According to election statistics for 2007-09 on the software now used in senate elections, the participation rates for the elections prior to the last one were 28-37%. Many of those elections had multiple reminders to vote, as we were trying to get to 50+%. A target of 35% of eligible voters would be attainable, though not without some effort.

ARTICLE IX

THE BYLAWS OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY

SECTION 3: Amendments to the Bylaws of the University Faculty shall be made by the University Faculty by a two-thirds vote in a ~~an~~ **university-wide** election ~~in which a majority~~ of the Regular **Faculty** Members ~~cast votes~~.

ARTICLE X

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

SECTION 1: The University Faculty may vote to amend this Constitution in a ~~an~~ **university-wide** election ~~in which a majority~~ of the regular **faculty** members ~~vote~~. An amendment shall be adopted by the University Faculty when ~~two-thirds~~ two-thirds of those who vote approve the amendment. University-wide elections shall have a minimum length of ten (10) academic days. The University Faculty shall not delegate the power to amend this Constitution except in *pro forma* cases provided for in Section 5 of this Article.