TO: The Committee on Research (CR) and the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC)
FROM: Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
SUBJECT: Referral to Review the Appointment Procedures for Membership on the Institutional Review Board (IRB)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
At its meeting of January 5, 2016, the Executive Committee voted to refer to the Committees on Research and Faculty Affairs the Appointment Procedures for Membership on the Institutional Review Board (5.2 Appointment Procedures, CR5 06-07).

ACTION REQUESTED:
The Executive Committee asks that your committees review the procedures to clarify and/or suggest changes to that would reflect the principle of shared governance. The committee would also like to understand the role of any external regulations that have necessitated how these appointment procedures have been adopted in the past.

With regard to shared governance: Given that faculty representing faculty on university committees are seated by faculty vote and not through administrative selection, why the practice differs in this case. That is, why, not only why the Executive Committee can add more nominees to those put forward, but also why the AVP of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs has the right to choose from among a roster of nominees.

With regard to regulations: If it is the case that federal requirements impact these particular appointment procedures, the Executive Committee would like to better understand what the federal requirements are and why these requirements would require that the AVP ORSP, rather than (or in addition to), faculty, choose from among a slate of nominees. Couldn’t the AVP, being given the final candidates, object to one or more if they were inappropriately chosen and ask for new choices from the faculty?

The Executive Committee would also appreciate a better understanding of the role of specialized expertise (e.g., animals, human subjects, etc.) in identifying and vetting nominees for the IRB.

The Executive Committee asks that your committees provide us with the results of your review and, if appropriate, any changes you would suggest.