

Reka Montfort

From: Marc W. Pound [mpound@astro.umd.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2009 4:31 PM
To: Elise Miller-Hooks
Cc: Reka Montfort; Kendra Wells
Subject: Research Faculty Apportionment

Dear Chair Miller-Hooks,

I represent the non-tenurable research faculty (NTRF) in the Senate. I'm writing to you to request that the ERG committee review the apportionment of the NTRF to determine if they are adequately represented and, if the ERG find they are not, request the ERG recommend corrective changes in the Plan of Organization or By-Laws.

The NTRF are designated a Single Member Constituency (Article 2.2b of the By-Laws and Article 3.5 of the Plan of Organization), and so apportioned one senator. However, as of Spring 2009, there were 1330 NTRF on campus, an increase of 8% since 2004. Their proportional representation in the Senate is lower than that of full-time undergraduates, which is set at 1 per 1000 students. Since the population of NTRF will likely grow with research expansion under the Strategic Plan, dilution of their representation will continue if no action is taken.

In addition to bringing in funding to support their research programs, many NTRF also supervise and fund students, serve on department and campus committees, and some even teach classes. They are a vital cohort of the campus community and deserve adequate representation in the Senate.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Marc Pound
Associate Research Scientist
Astronomy Department