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May 16, 2011

Marc Pound
Chair
Elections, Representation & Governance (ERG) Committee

Dear Marc,

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) reviewed the Elections, Representation & Governance (ERG) Committee's report on "Preservation of Shared Governance During Reorganizations, Consolidations, and Mergers" (Senate Document #: 09-10-49) at its meeting on May 12, 2011. On behalf of the SEC, I would like to commend your committee on its thoughtful review of this issue. We recognize that shared governance is a key element of our campus structure and should be incorporated into college and unit plans of organization. However, the SEC feels that the ERG recommendation for punitive measures, if a college/school does not comply with requests to revise its plan of organization, is not appropriate. Several members suggested that if an initial request from the Senate Office were disregarded, a request from the Provost's Office would be sufficient. Therefore, the SEC suggests that the ERG Committee reconsider the following language (**in bold**), in your report:

- *ERG recommends that action should be taken if a school, college, or department/unit does not review its plan every ten years. **This action should initially be administrative, but there should be flexibility to take further action if administrative measures are unsuccessful.***

*If a dean is recalcitrant in initiating a college plan review at the ten-year mark, the Senate Office should contact the Provost to pursue the issue. **In the event that the plan is still not reviewed in a timely manner, punitive action could be taken. Plan Article 11.1.d suggests an appropriate sanction: "No faculty members of the Library, a College, or a School without an approved Plan of Organization may be seated in the Senate."** We recommend consideration be given to allow the SEC to levy the same penalty on colleges who fail to review their plan every ten years (if this requires a change to the Plan, please consider this a recommendation to the next PORC).*

We hope to reconsider the ERG recommendations in the fall. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Kasischke".

Eric Kasischke
Chair

EK/rm