

Regularize the vote proportion needed to ratify changes to the Constitution and Bylaws

Received 8/7/2019, proposed by faculty center staff and faculty officers

Change:

Change the proportion of 'yes' votes required to amend the Constitution so that it is the same as the proportion needed to ratify changes to the Bylaws (two thirds majority).

Rationale:

Article X, Sections 2 and 3 of the Constitution set out the rules for ratification of amendments to these documents. Section 2 specifies that amendments to the Constitution require a three-fourths majority, but Section 3 specifies that amendments to the Bylaws require a two-thirds majority. There does not seem to be a reason for this difference.

Proposal:

We suggesting that both documents allow ratification of amendments by a two-thirds majority. This would require the following change to Article X, Section 2, Paragraph 1.

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed by the Faculty Senate or by petition to the Chair of the Faculty signed by five percent (5%) or one hundred (100) members of the General Faculty, whichever is smaller. The Chair of the Faculty shall send copies of such proposals to all members of the General Faculty and shall convene a special meeting of the General Faculty to consider them not fewer than ten (10) class days after distribution. The proposed amendment(s) shall then be submitted to an electronic ballot of the General Faculty. A ~~three-fourths~~ two-thirds majority of the votes cast is necessary for adoption.