

Resolution 2019-5. On Amending the *Faculty Code of University Government* to Change the Procedure for Passing Resolutions of the General Faculty.

The General Faculty enacts:

Section 1-7 of the *Faculty Code of University Government* is amended as follows.

§ 1-7. Resolutions and code amendments.

(a) All resolutions of the General Faculty, including proposals to amend this *Code*, must be passed on two separate readings. The first reading must be passed by either the Faculty Council or the General Faculty in a meeting called under the provisions of § 1-3. The second reading must be passed by electronic ballot sent to all voting faculty as defined in § 1-4.

(b) Proposals to amend this *Code* must be considered by the Committee on University Government before being brought to the initial vote according to the procedure in § 1-7(a). The Committee considers the proposal and reports its recommendations promptly.

Justification

This amendment would make use of technology to support and encourage trends towards increased engagement of the General Faculty in University government. UNC-CH provides more structural support for General Faculty gathering and voting than most other institutions of higher education, but logistical challenges reduce participation at scheduled meetings.

This proposal builds on the deliberation-supporting tradition of requiring two votes for approval of resolutions to amend the *Faculty Code* and does three new things to reduce the logistical burden and increase the integrity of General Faculty voting more broadly. First, the two-vote requirement is extended to all resolutions to be passed by the General Faculty. Second, the initial vote on a *Code* change or resolution can be taken by either the Faculty Council or by the General Faculty. This change would allow *Code* amendments and resolutions to be considered initially by either body and would open the possibility for the Council to forward its resolutions or a *Code* amendment to the full faculty even if General Faculty meetings have not been scheduled. Third and perhaps most significantly, the second vote will be by email, allowing a more modern vehicle for broad faculty engagement. This electronic ballot could be produced very quickly for issues that are time sensitive, potentially allowing a more convenient form of engagement for the General Faculty and providing a framework like Faculty Council elections in which the integrity of the voting process is authenticated.

In addition, this proposal incorporates into the *Code* a tradition of having the Committee on University Government review resolutions for Code amendments prior to introduction for the initial vote, rather than allowing this review to occur after the first vote. This proposed procedure is intended to draw on this committee for careful review, consultation, and potential editing so that Faculty Council or the General Faculty debate and initial voting can be conducted efficiently.

The Committee on University Government recommends that this resolution be passed.