

**UNIVERSITY SENATE
UNIVERSITY AT ALBANY
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK**

Introduced by: Governance Council

Date: August, 14, 2014

Amendment RE: Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation.

IT IS HEREBY PROPOSED THAT THE FOLLOWING BE ADOPTED:

- That the proposed amendment to the University *Senate Charter below* be adopted.
- That this amendment go into effect immediately following Senate approval.
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Current Charter:

X.1.3. **The Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation** shall evaluate the effectiveness of governance in representing its constituencies, in addressing issues and concerns, and in affecting institutional decisions.

X.1.3.1. The Committee on Assessment of Governance and Consultation shall consist of no more than 8 members, including at least 3 members of the Council, at least 5 Teaching Faculty, and no more than 2 voting members selected from Faculty or Staff who are not students or Voting Faculty.

X.1.3.2. The Committee shall assess:

X.1.3.2.1. the structure and functioning of governance;

X.1.3.2.2. the responsiveness of governance bodies to their constituencies;

X.1.3.2.3. the effectiveness of Faculty participation in decision-making, as specified in Article I, Sections 2.2 and 2.4 and Article II, Section 5.2 of the *Faculty Bylaws*.

X.1.3.3. The Committee shall develop and regularly administer assessment instruments, conduct data analysis and report findings to the Council.

Proposed Revision:

The following change is proposed:

X.1.3.3. The Committee shall develop and regularly administer assessment instruments, conduct data analysis and report findings to the Council **on a two-year cycle**.

Rationale:

The Governance Council has concluded it is important to institutionalize systematic evaluation of the effectiveness of governance in representing its constituencies, in addressing issues and concerns, and in affecting institutional decisions. This would support “the development of stable expectations and working relationships” as recommended in the 2009 Middle States Report, Chapter 4, p. 2 (see <https://wiki.albany.edu/display/middlestates/Home>). Although the recommendation put forward in the 2009 Middle States Report was for annual campus surveys of faculty (see quote below) the Governance Council has decided that a two year cycle would more effectively support a process of survey development, implementation, analysis, presentation of results and revision.

“It is strongly recommended that the campus survey of faculty completed for the Middle States self-study be done annually as a way to monitor faculty views and conditions at the University” (Chapter 4: *Leadership, Governance and Administration*, p. 8).