

Proposed Amendment to the Senate Charter

(offered for Senate consideration by the Governance Council)

Initial Review Committee on Academic Proposals (IRCAP) *not originating from colleges and schools that offer degree programs*

VII.8. Initial Review Committee of Academic Proposals (IRCAP)

VII.8.1. Composition of IRCAP

VII.8.1.1 IRCAP shall consist of at least 7 full-time members of the tenured Teaching Faculty, 3 of whom shall be from the College of Arts and Sciences, and one representative each from at least four of the other schools and colleges that offer degree programs. IRCAP shall have one graduate student selected by the Graduate Student Organization and one undergraduate student selected by the Student Association President. The Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education (or designee), the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designee), and the Chair of the University Senate (or designee) shall serve as voting *ex officio* members. All IRCAP members (whether *ex officio* or not) shall recuse themselves from voting on any proposal that originates (either fully or partially) from their units.

VII.8.1.2. The full-time tenured Teaching Faculty representing the colleges and schools will be selected by the faculty governance bodies within their respective colleges and schools.

VII.8.1.3. Once a new committee is formed in the Spring for the following academic year, the voting members of IRCAP shall elect a Chair from among the Teaching Faculty who are not *ex officio* members of the body. The Chair shall serve a one-year term to begin in September. The Chair of the Senate shall report the membership of IRCAP and its chair to the University Senate.

VII.8.2. Responsibilities of IRCAP

VII.8.2.1. IRCAP shall provide the first layer of academic review for proposals for courses and programs neither originating from nor offered by colleges and schools that offer degree programs. This committee serves an important function similar to that of academic course/program review committees within colleges and schools.

VII.8.2.2. A proposal that is approved by IRCAP shall be forwarded to the Undergraduate Academic Council and/or the Graduate Academic Council as appropriate.

VII.8.2.3. IRCAP shall provide a formal, written report of its academic review of course/program proposals to the appropriate academic council(s) of the Senate. The written report should specifically address the value of the proposed academic and institutional goals, the number of academic credits requested, the proposed grading mode, strategies for assessment, potential need for interim approvals followed by regular reviews, academic rigor, and qualifications of instructors, plus other aspects deemed of academic interest.

VII.8.3. Appeals of IRCAP decisions

VII.8.3.1. The Committee on Mediation (Article X.1.6) shall be the body that reviews appeals by individuals who believe that their proposals have not received a fair review by IRCAP. [*\(A friendly amendment in italics was introduced by the Chair of the GAC at the meeting of the Senate Executive Committee on 2 May 2008\)*](#) Depending on whether the proposal in question was intended for the UAC or the GAC or both, the chair or chairs (or designee) of the council(s) affected shall be voting participants during deliberations by the Committee on Mediation.