

TO: Fort Wayne Senate

FROM: Ann Marshall, Chair of the Executive Committee

DATE: November 21, 2021

SUBJ: Amendment to the Constitution--Definitional Changes (e.g., Lecturers) and Secondary Effects

WHEREAS, the definitional article of the Senate Constitution has included the academic rank of “lecturer” for many years; and

WHEREAS, this notation refers to a category that the Purdue system replaced with a university staff classification called “continuing lecturer” in AY 1998-1999; and

WHEREAS, [SD 02-5](#) amended the Senate Constitution to state that continuing lecturers are “associate members of the faculty” but did not remove “lecturer” from that document, leaving that term active; and

WHEREAS, [Purdue Policy VI.F.4](#) on lecturers was updated and [supplemented](#) in AY 2019-2020 to, among other matters, replace the classification of continuing lecturers with lecturers and permit their promotion to senior lecturer; and

WHEREAS, one effect of this policy change has been to make all references to “continuing lecturers” in the Constitution anachronistic; and

WHEREAS, another impact of this shift has been to make it impossible to choose a replacement for the elected representative of the continuing lecturers (see [SD 14-33](#)) since there are no more continuing lecturers at PFW; and

WHEREAS, the term of the current elected representative of the continuing lecturers ends at the conclusion of the present Senate term; and

WHEREAS, a third consequence of this policy update has been that lecturers have technically been treated as members of the PFW “faculty” for the purposes of faculty governance since it was fully implemented on this campus at the end of AY 2019-2020 (see [Senate Constitution](#) Sections I.C. and I.D.); and

WHEREAS, while Purdue Policy VI.F.4. does classify lecturers and senior lecturers as staff, it also contains language that permits units to treat individuals in these classifications as faculty for the purposes of faculty governance in their “bylaws”; and

WHEREAS, the Senate cannot simply replace every reference to “continuing lecturers” with “lecturers” in the Constitution without creating a logical paradox (i.e., lecturers being defined as both faculty in Section I.C. of the document and associate members of the faculty in its Section I.F.); and

WHEREAS, according to the current [certification of the faculty](#) (as authorized by Section II of the Constitution) and the [faculty-staff directory](#) in the 2021-2022 PFW undergraduate course catalog, instructors of all ranks are treated as members of the voting faculty; and

WHEREAS, there is no provision in the Constitution that explicitly authorizes this practice; and

WHEREAS, according to the current faculty-staff directory, there are five active instructors at PFW (two clinical instructors, two instructors, one senior instructor); and

WHEREAS, according to the current faculty-staff directory, the academic rank of “affiliate librarian” has fallen into desuetude; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee believes that there are instances in the Constitution where the distinction between faculty and voting faculty is not as clear as it should be; and

WHEREAS, there is a conflict between the Constitution and Bylaws on the conditions under which special meetings of the Senate can be called;

BE IT RESOLVED, that, except as explicitly noted below, all instances of the term “continuing lecturer” in the Senate Constitution be replaced with “lecturer”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section I.C. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “Positions of academic rank shall include professor, librarian, associate and assistant professor or librarian, instructor, **senior instructor**, ~~affiliate librarian~~, and lecturer, **and senior lecturer.**”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section I.E. of the Constitution be amended as follows:

“The Voting Faculty shall consist of those full-time members of the Faculty and those faculty who are on partial retirement, who are not enrolled in an undergraduate degree program at PFW nor in a graduate degree program in their home department and who:

1. Are tenured or hold tenure-track appointments in units subject to those powers of the Fort Wayne Faculty detailed in Section VI, below, and perform duties at least half of which consists of teaching or other creative/scholarly work; or
2. Are tenured or hold tenure-track appointments with the rank of librarian, ~~or~~ **associate librarian, or assistant librarian, or affiliate librarian**; or
3. Hold the rank of assistant, associate, or full clinical professor; **or**
- 4. Hold the rank of clinical instructor, instructor, or senior instructor.**”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section I.F. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “Associate Members of the Faculty shall consist of emeritus, ~~continuing lecturers~~, and visiting members of the Faculty and persons who have academic appointments but who are not Faculty. These individuals shall have the privilege of attending Faculty assemblies and convocations, but shall not possess the right to vote **during Faculty Convocations** ~~except for the elected representative of the continuing lecturers.~~”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the last sentence of Section II of the Constitution be amended as follows: “Changes in the eligibility of individuals to vote, speak, or stand for elective office shall be effective immediately, but the January certification shall apply in defining the size and distribution of the **Voting** Faculty for procedures such as establishing a quorum, establishing a given fraction of the **Voting** Faculty, and apportionment.”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section IV.C. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “At any Faculty Convocation, any item may be brought up for discussion, and the Senate, the chief administrative

officer of PFW, the President, and the Board of Trustees of Purdue University may be petitioned for action by the convened Voting Faculty. **Only members of the Voting Faculty and the elected representative of the lecturers may vote on such petitions.**”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section VII.A.1.g. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “Additional members of the **Voting** Faculty selected **as Senators** according to procedures in this Article”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the first sentence of Section VII.B.2.b. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “*Special Meetings*. Upon petition by twenty percent of the **Voting** Faculty **or forty percent of the Senate**, a special meeting of the Senate shall be called within a time limit determined by the Bylaws adopted by the Senate.”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the first sentence of Section VIII.A.2. of the Constitution be amended as follows: “The review power shall be exercised by an Academic Personnel Grievance Board elected by the **Voting** Faculty.”; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Section VIII.B.1.a. of the Constitution be amended as follows:

“1. Senate actions shall be subject to review and check by the **Voting** Faculty through the following two procedures:

a. At any Convocation of the Faculty, past actions of its Senate may be brought to the floor for discussion. If a majority of those present **and eligible to vote** so direct, the Senate must reconsider its action at its next regular meeting.”; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that these amendments become effective immediately upon Senate approval and ratification by the Voting Faculty in a referendum.