Memorandum

To: University Senate

From: Philip T.K. Daniel, Chair
University Senate Rules Committee

Date: September 30, 2010

WHEREAS In a survey of department chairs, school directors, and deans, only 6% of the ninety responses said that one faculty meeting should be required per year. The rest of the respondents suggested numbers ranging from two to monthly. Setting the rule as one per semester establishes a minimum threshold that covers the great majority of responses to the survey; and

WHEREAS The rule needs to be applicable to departments and schools that vary widely in size; the minimum of two recognizes that the size of a given unit may affect how often it needs to meet as a whole; and

WHEREAS Departmental and school patterns of administration can set a higher minimum that provided in the rule; this rule sets only the minimum expectation.

WHEREAS The rule as currently written recognizes that departmental meetings are only one venue in which departmental governance and community building is carried out; departmental meetings will always be supplemented by committee meetings, on-line discussions, personnel and Promotion and Tenure meetings, and social events.

WHEREAS the proposal was approved by the Rules and Steering committees in April, 2010.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate approve the proposal to modify rule 3335-5-18 pertaining to faculty meetings, and respectfully request concurrence from the Board of Trustees.

3335-5-18 Meetings.

The department or school faculty in each tenure initiating unit shall meet upon the call of the chair, or director, or Dean or as prescribed in the unit’s pattern of administration, but not less frequently than once each quarter, or semester, during the academic year.