

The Dornsife College Faculty Council

Amendment to Bylaws of the Faculty Council Regarding Proportional Representation

Background:

The Constitution of the Faculty Council, in Article V, Section 1, states, “Divisional Representatives represent the eligible faculty in each of the College’s historical Divisions—Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences and Mathematics. The number of Divisional Representatives shall be proportionate to the number of eligible faculty in that Division. Current distribution of Divisional Representatives is to be specified in the Council’s bylaws and subject to periodic amendment.”

The current Bylaws of the Faculty Council, in Article II, Section 2, state that elected representatives shall be divided evenly, with six representatives each from Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences. However, the most recent census of the Dornsife faculty provided by the Dean’s office shows 41.7% of the faculty in Humanities, 36.8% in Natural Sciences, and 21.5% in Social Sciences. Each elected DFC representative is 5.6% of our total elected body of 18. To re-apportion representatives based on the principle of proportional representation, you could divide the percentages above by 5.6. This would mean, on a purely proportional basis, Humanities would get 7.4 reps (round down to 7), Natural Science would get 6.6 reps (round up to 7), and Social Science would get 3.8 reps (round up to 4). This does not align with the 6/6/6 divide called for in the current bylaws.

As the current division of representation across the division does not align proportionately with the makeup of the faculty, a discussion was held by the Council on October 4, 2017 concerning approaches to ensure a fairer allotment of voting blocs. Leading from that discussion, three options for potential revisions are proposed by the Faculty Council President, Trisha Tucker.

Proposed Amendments:

The options on the following pages were presented in writing to the council as possible amendments to Article, Section 2 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Council on November 1, 2017:

Option One

Current wording:	Proposed Amendment:	If Adopted Will Read:
<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>

Rationale: Removes the strict 6/6/6 designation and instead codifies a proportionate breakdown as well as the mechanism for when that proportion is determined.

Option Two

Current wording:	Proposed Amendment:	If Adopted Will Read:
<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality, but no bloc shall have fewer than 4 members. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality, but no bloc shall have fewer than 4 members. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>

Rationale: Removes the strict 6/6/6 designation and instead codifies a proportionate breakdown as well as the mechanism for when that proportion is determined. It also establishes a floor for bloc size, so no division ends up under-represented on the Council.

Option Three

Current wording:	Proposed Amendment:	If Adopted Will Read
<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be six Representatives from the Humanities, six from the Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and six from the Social Sciences, plus the President, for 19 total. Three Representatives from each division shall be elected in each even year and three in each odd year. These numbers are subject to future amendment, in accordance with the principle of proportional representation.</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality, but no bloc shall have fewer than 4 members, and no bloc shall have more than 7. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>	<p>2. Divisional Representatives</p> <p>There shall be 18 Representatives, plus the President, for a total of 19. The number of Representatives from the Humanities, Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and Social Sciences voting blocs shall be determined in accordance with the principle of proportionality, but no bloc shall have fewer than 4 members, and no bloc shall have more than 7. In every even-numbered year the number of faculty in each voting bloc must be determined before the election of new Representatives in the Spring semester in order to ensure proportional representation.</p>

Rationale: Removes the strict 6/6/6 designation and instead codifies a proportionate breakdown as well as the mechanism for when that proportion is determined. It also establishes a floor and a ceiling for bloc size, so no division ends up under- or over-represented on the Council.

Resolution 17/18-001 – Amendment on Proportional Representation

The council members voted on the three options on November 1, 2017. In the ensuing discussion, Option 1 received 7 votes; Option 2 received 8 votes; Option 3 received none. Option 2 moved forward as the proposed amendment. As of the December 7, 2017 Faculty Council meeting, in accordance with Article VI of the Bylaws, **Option 2 is adopted, and the Bylaws were so amended.**