MEMORANDUM

TO: Senate Committee on Organization and Governance

FROM: Mariam Ehrari
Chairperson, Student Senators Council
A/Y 2013-2014

RE: Student Senators Council Resolution on Senate Representation

On November 26th, the Student Senators Council passed the attached resolution.

CC: John Sexton
Bonnie Brier
Mariam Ehrari
Raghu Sundaram
Lynn Videja
David Vogelsang
Laura Russo
Cara Terzulli
Diane Yu
Resolution on Senate Representation

Guiding Principles

In examining the question of University Governance and the representation of new and changing constituencies within the University Senate, the Student Senators Council resolves that the following principles should guide the formulation of the University Senate:

1. Equity
   The University’s representative structure shall reflect the equitable distribution of voting power among the four Key Constituency Groups: The Faculty (including Tenure Track Faculty, Tenured Faculty, and Full-Time Contract Faculty), The Students (including graduate and undergraduate students), The Deans, and The Administration (including both the Administrative Management Council and the University Leadership Team).

2. Scalability
   The University’s representative structure shall be reasonably designed to accommodate the potential future growth of the University with the application of consistent rules and procedures for admitting new Communities into the Key Constituency Groups on an equitable basis, such as in the event that a new School joins the University.

3. Flexibility
   The University’s representative structure shall incorporate sufficient flexibility to maintain equity and scalability when applied to the varied Key Constituency Groups, understanding that each contains internal sub-constituencies whose needs and interests vary significantly.
Given the above principles and federal nature of the university governance structure, the SSC proposes that the University Senate voting power be distributed among the Faculty, Students, and Deans / Administration in equal increments of \( \frac{1}{3} \); and that the apportionment of seats per council ultimately be based on the number of schools recognized in the University Bylaws. There shall be two seats allocated per school to the Faculty and the Students, one seat allocated per school to the Deans, and one seat per school to the Administration. This method of seat allocation is intended only to apply a logical mathematical derivation for the number of seats per council. Each Constituency Group may allocate these seats among their various councils as they see fit, therefore each school may not explicitly receive two Senate representatives.

In the event that a school is added to the University community, such a model allows for simple and straightforward scalability of governance to integrate this new population. The Faculty shall receive an additional two seats (apportioned pursuant to the rules outlined below under “Additional Considerations”), the Students shall receive two additional seats, the Dean’s council shall receive one additional seat, and the Administration shall receive one additional seat (apportioned pursuant to the rules outlined below under “Additional Considerations”).
NYUSSC
Student Senators Council

Application of the School-Based Model

Schools Represented in Representation Calculations

The below allocation of representation is designed to accommodate the 14 schools in the University Bylaws, as well as NYU Poly, NYU Abu Dhabi, and NYU Shanghai, for a total of 17 schools.

Distribution of Representation

Applying the school-based model to the distribution of University Senators results in the following distribution of representatives:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Constituency Group</th>
<th>Senators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Faculty</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deans</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>102</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Impact of the School-Based Model on the Key Constituency Groups with 17 Schools

The Deans: The Dean’s Council shall retain their current structure of essentially one dean per school, plus one seat for the Division of Libraries for a total of 18.

The Faculty: The Faculty as a constituent group shall receive 34 seats. The seats would be apportioned between the Tenure / Tenure Track Faculty, and Full-Time Contract Faculty.*

The Students: The Students as a constituent group shall receive 34 seats. The seats would be apportioned between the graduate and undergraduate students.*

The Administration: The Administration in tandem with the Dean’s Council will not directly utilize the school-based model. The Administration shall receive 16 seats (the remainder of the 34 seats that are not filled by The Deans). The ULT and AMC should divide the seats as equally as possible between the two councils.*

*See Appendix: Suggested Additional Recommendations of this model
Appendix: Suggested Additional Recommendations

The recommendations below are intended to provide guidance to the individual constituencies in their distribution of their Voting Seats, with the understanding that each constituency has a variety of unique needs which must be taken into account.

Faculty Distribution
The SSC recommends that representation for Faculty be distributed between the Tenure / Tenure Track Faculty and Full-Time Contract Faculty based on a delegate model rather than the current population model. Each school of faculty shall have an elected faculty council for representation. The delegate senator shall be chosen from within the council, and will represent and be held accountable to the council and their faculty. It is our belief that neither the tenure/tenure track faculty nor the full time contract faculty should be significantly underrepresented, with University Senate seats being allocated to each of these two sub-constituencies as needed to achieve equitable representation.

While the SSC recommends a school based model, Faculty will have to equitably determine how senator positions are apportioned between the Tenure/ Tenure Track Faculty, and Full-Time Contract Faculty.

Student Distribution
The SSC recommends that it ensures proper representation for graduate and undergraduate schools and divisions within schools. For schools which do not have a graduate or undergraduate population, that second seat should be placed into an at-large senator pool.

Administration Distribution
The SSC recognizes that the Administration play a distinct role within the University, and that the school based model proposed for the other Key Constituency Groups would not be wholly applicable here. The Administration defined above includes both the University Leadership Team and representatives from the Administrative Management Council.

Following the basic principle of equity, seats should be apportioned as equally as possible between these two groups. With growth, we recommend that additional seats issued to the Administration (such as in the event that a school is added to the University) be allocated first to the AMC, and then to the ULT, on an alternating basis.

Implementation
We recommend that the representation policies above be implemented as swiftly as possible, but recognize that the tenure of existing representatives on the Councils of the University Senate may require a phased roll-out of the new governance structure.