

**Proposed Amendment  
to the Constitution of the Portland State University Faculty**

BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON HIGH ACHIEVING STUDENTS, THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY SENATE PROPOSES THE FOLLOWING ADDITION, WHICH CREATES A NEW CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE:

**ARTICLE IV. ORGANIZATION OF THE FACULTY. 4) Standing Committees and Their Functions. o) Honors Council.** This council shall consist of six faculty members from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (two from each of its divisions), one from each of the other divisions, two upper-division undergraduate students, the director of the University Honors Program and, as consultants, the following or his/her representative: the Provost, the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, and a member of the University Studies Council. The Committee on Committees shall endeavor to select appointees from among faculty members with an involvement in department honors tracks, department honors societies, and the University Honors Program. As best as possible, the student representatives should be drawn from students participating in the University Honors Program or a departmental honors track. The Council shall:

- 1) Develop and recommend University policies and establish general procedures and regulations for the University Honors Program and departmental honors tracks.
- 2) Recommend to the Faculty Senate or its appropriate committees and to the Dean of Undergraduate Studies suitable policies and standards for Honors courses, programs, and tracks.
- 3) Coordinate with the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee to review recommendations to the Senate for new courses in the University Honors Program and for substantive changes to the Honors Program with regard to quality and emphasis.
- 4) Coordinate with the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee to review recommendations to the Senate regarding the creation of new honors tracks or for changes in the requirements of existing tracks.
- 5) Review, at its own initiative or at the request of appropriate individuals or faculty committees, campus-wide resources, practices, and services for and practices in regard to high-achieving students, and suggest needed changes to the appropriate administrators or faculty committee.
- 6) Act in liaison with appropriate committees.
- 7) Report at least once a year to the Senate, including a list of courses and program changes reviewed and approved,

**Rationale and Notes:**

Currently, there is no faculty governance oversight of the University Honors Program or department honors tracks. Curriculum and programmatic changes related to honors do not go through the regular curricular review process. This committee will provide ongoing faculty oversight of the Honors Program and other Honors-related activities on campus that is comparable to the oversight given to curricular and programmatic changes made by other academic departments. The committee is given a broad charge that goes beyond overseeing these

curricular matters-so that it can provide better coordination and direction to all of the university's efforts to recruit and serve high achieving students. The broader charge is designed to allow the Faculty Senate to continue to review the way in which we attract, educate and support high achieving students after the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on High Achieving Students comes to an end. Members of the Committee will serve for three year terms after an initial adjustment period, with at least a third but, if possible, no more than half being replaced each year.

I, a member of the faculty senate for 2009-2010, support this amendment.

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Printed Name

Signature

Date