

The Task Force on Faculty Governance

PREAMBLE: The Faculty Executive Committee, with the encouragement of the President, hereby creates the Task Force on Faculty Governance, an ad hoc committee, whose charge is to recommend changes in the Faculty Rules and Regulations and administrative procedures designed to ensure that the Faculty plays an important and appropriate role in the governance of Brown University. Governance is interpreted to include not only management of matters affecting the Faculty, such as faculty appointments, promotions, tenure, creation and abolition of academic units, evaluation of faculty merit and salaries, and academic budgets but also the participation of the Faculty in setting the academic priorities for Brown.

The Task Force is advised to examine models of governance at Brown and other leading universities and to recommend changes in governance that will establish conditions for the continuing cooperation between the Faculty and the Administration in meeting the highest goals for the academic welfare of Brown University.

The Task Force should consider all forms of governance in pursuit of its charge but should focus its attention primarily on those activities that primarily affect the Faculty or have broad implications for the academic priorities of Brown.

CHARGE: The Task Force will examine the role of the Brown University Faculty in self-governance as well as in setting the academic priorities of the University. Faculty self-governance includes but is not limited to faculty appointments, promotions, tenure, creation and abolition of academic units, evaluation of faculty merit and salaries, and academic budgets.

The Task Force will recommend changes, as necessary, in administrative procedures and the Faculty Rules and Regulations designed to provide the Faculty with a role in the governance of Brown University that reflects good management principles and the central importance of the Faculty to the long-term welfare of Brown University. The Task Force is advised to consult with the Administration to ensure that its recommendations are consistent, to the extent possible, with a responsibility of the Faculty and the Administration for shared governance of Brown.

The committee is to make a preliminary report to the Faculty no later than October 2002 and a final report no later than April 2003.

MEMBERSHIP: Eight faculty members, two each from the major divisions of the University with suitable representation from the faculty ranks. Preference should be given to members of the Faculty who have served on the Academic Priorities Subcommittee of the Academic Council, the Advisory Committee on University Planning, the Committee on Faculty Reappointment and Tenure, the Committee on Nominations, and the Faculty Executive Committee. The membership should be reflective of the broad diversity of the Brown Faculty. Members of the Committee will be appointed by the FEC upon the advice of the Committee on Nominations.