Recommendation of the University Committee to add to UWM Policies and Procedures subsection 6.27 Faculty Standing Subcommittee and Limited Term Subcommittee Membership

RATIONALE:

Several problems have become evident given the lack of specificity regarding the composition of faculty standing subcommittees and faculty limited term subcommittees. First, and foremost many faculty standing committees have created an array of subcommittees that do not have adequate faculty representations or have faculty representation by including faculty who are not members of faculty standing committee. Second, some of our faculty standing committees have created limited term (ad hoc or special) subcommittees whose focus and purpose extend across semesters and years. Consequently, the limited term nature of these subcommittees is not evident. Third, many faculty standing subcommittees are operating without an approved charter and therefore the tasks and functions of these standing subcommittees are not known.

Therefore the University Committee offers the following proposed changes.

Chapter 6

6.27 Faculty Standing Subcommittee and Limited term Subcommittee Membership

(1) Faculty Standing Subcommittee

A faculty standing committee may establish a standing subcommittee to consider ongoing matters within the general functions of the committee. The membership and functions of the standing subcommittees are expressed in writing and approved by the faculty senate. Standing subcommittees may only include as voting members, faculty, academic staff, and student members who are already members of the committee or who are faculty who have been specifically elected to the standing subcommittee. The chair of the subcommittee and the majority of the standing subcommittee members must be faculty members serving on the committee. A quorum consists of a majority of the total voting faculty membership of the standing subcommittee. Recommendations of a subcommittee must be approved by the full committee before being forwarded to the Faculty Senate for further action.

All standing subcommittees must have approved charters and these charters must be on file with the Secretary of the University and be subject to review by the faculty.
(2) Faculty Limited Term Subcommittee

A faculty standing committee may establish a limited term subcommittee to consider short
term or special matters within the general functions of the committee. Permission must be
granted by the University Committee to extend the activities of limited term or special
subcommittees beyond one academic year. The membership and functions of the subcommittees
are expressed in writing and approved by majority vote of the committee. Subcommittees may
include as voting members, faculty, academic staff, and student members not already members of
the committee, provided that at least the majority of the voting members of the subcommittee are
concurrently voting members of the committee. The chair of the limited term subcommittee must
be a faculty member serving on the committee. A quorum consists of a majority of the total
voting faculty membership of the limited term subcommittee. Recommendations of a limited
term subcommittee must be approved by the full standing committee before being forwarded to
the Faculty Senate for further action.