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# Apportionment

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*Approved by the Senate: 4/24/2003*

*Not Approved by the Senate:*

*Approved by the President:*

*Not Approved by the President:*

# Apportionment

Submitted by Jim LoBue

4/24/2003

## **Motion:**

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That the Faculty Senate adopt the following method for apportioning Senate seats

## **Rationale:**

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This item relates to old business from the February 2003 meeting. It is important for us to get as much of it settled as possible before the end of the year to avoid institutional amnesia.

## **Response:**

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Minutes: 4/24/2003: Apportionment Proposals from Jim LoBue, Senate Elections Committee

LoBue (COST) decided to move the individual sections of the proposal separately rather than make an omnibus motion. First up: "Each college and the Library will have the total number of its full-faculty (including temporary faculty) members divided by 15; for every 15 members, or a major portion thereof that unit will receive a Senate seat to be filled by election following each unit's election process."

Cyr, (CLASS, Senate Secretary), who sat on the Elections Committee, noted this self-adjusting system had been worked out using the number of 663 total faculty (from the Provost's office), which would produce 45 Senate seats. In a recent meeting, Provost Vandegrift had projected 625-630 for Fall '03, which would give about 42 seats. Cyr pointed out that only a precipitate drop in faculty numbers would create a problem – we must have by Statute at least 40 seats – and asked the Provost if he foresaw such a

problem coming up. Because of budget and accompanying hiring issues, Provost Vandegrift would hazard no guess.

John Brown (COBA) pointed out that the issue of each unit having 2 seats minimum needed to be rolled into the current motion. LoBue (COST) modified his motion, adding “No unit shall have fewer than two senate seats, even if that means apportioning a seat to a unit that is not strictly called for by the ration in section 1 of this motion.” The revised motion was passed.

LoBue’s next motion: “Apportionment calculations will be conducted by the Senate Elections Committee annually in January using the regular full-time faculty count available from the Provost. That committee will report their findings to the Senate Executive Committee, which will notify the election committees of the individual units regarding those findings and how many seats they have open for election.”

Seconded.

Mark Edwards (COST) suggested a more specific census date than “January.” LoBue (COST) and Cyr (CLASS) noted how holidays and other calendar issues made greater specificity problematic.

Chuck Johnson (COBA) asked for a definition of “regular faculty.” LoBue responded that his understanding was that full-time tenured, tenure-track, and temporary faculty were included, but not adjuncts. Johnson suggested adding a definition; Krug (CLASS) suggested the same phrasing as in the first motion passed. Allen (CLASS, Senate Moderator) cited the Statutes, Section 8, A: “Voting members of the Faculty Senate shall include at least forty regular full-time members of the faculty of Georgia Southern University holding the rank of instructor, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor who have been members of the faculty of the University for at least one year at the beginnings of their terms. . . .” Johnson was still hazy on “regular”; Cyr (CLASS) suggested it excluded adjuncts to avoid the issue of adding up three or four part-time lines to make a Frankensteinian FTE faculty member, and that he felt Krug’s suggestion would work. Johnson accepted substituting “full-time faculty, including temporary faculty members” for “regular faculty.” Parliamentarian Jeff McLellan pointed out that omitting “regular” conflicted with the Statutes. Much parliamentary-process confusion ensued. Ultimately, all motions to this point were amended to use the phrase “regular full-time faculty as defined in the Statutes” and the amended motions were passed. LoBue made his next motion: “Should apportionment calculations direct a reduction in a unit’s number of senate seats, no sitting senator will be removed; that seat will be eliminated when the first senator of that unit to reach his or her term limit rotates off the senate. Also, no unit will lose more than one seat in any given year, the SEC being charged with

the adjusting the terms of elected senators so that staggered term rotation of senators in a unit will not be jeopardized.”

Seconded and approved.

[Attachment](#)