

MEMORANDUM

TO Jeffrey Nowak, Chair  
Senate Executive Committee

FROM: Jay Johns, Chair  
Faculty Affairs Committee

DATE: 01/09/2026

SUBJ: Exception Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee Tenured-Faculty Chair to  
Continue as Non-Voting Co-Chair under Emeritus Status

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**WHEREAS**, the Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) is the parent committee of the Ad-Hoc Community Engagement Subcommittee; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ad-Hoc Community Engagement Subcommittee requested that FAC review a resolution that makes an exception to the Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws and allows Sherrie Steiner to remain on the Ad-Hoc Community Engagement Subcommittee as a Non-Voting Co-Chair after transitioning to Emeritus status; and

**WHEREAS**, understanding the magnitude of the request, FAC members believe this should solely be the choice of the Faculty Senate. In this case, the FAC voting record at the bottom of this page does not communicate agreement (or disagreement) with Sherrie Steiner being granted the requested exception. Instead, the vote demonstrates FAC's vote for the decision to solely be in the hands of Faculty Senate;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, That the attached resolution be considered by the Senate.

**TO:** Jay Johns, FAC Chair  
**CC:** Talia Bugel, Adam Dircksen, Wenjia Han, Mark Jordan, Jospeter Mbuba, Kim O'Connor, Promothas Saha, Sarah Wagner, Senate Officers, Ad hoc Engagement Subcommittee members, and Executive Committee  
**FROM:** Sherrie Steiner, Chair, Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee of FAC  
**DATE:** December 15, 2025  
**SUBJECT:** Exception Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee Tenured-Faculty Chair to Continue as Non-Voting Co-Chair under Emeritus Status

**WHEREAS,** Senate Document SD 24-17 approved Community Engagement as an Area of Faculty Work, and

**WHEREAS,** Sherrie Steiner's shift to Emeritus Status on December 31, 2025 means that she is considered an associate member of the faculty (Constitution I.E), but she is not identified as qualified to serve on this committee according to Bylaws regulations on committee membership (Section I.B.3.1.1.) and ad-hoc committee membership (Section III.E.2.1.) that indicate that a faculty member needs to be part of the Teaching Faculty (TF = Voting Faculty + lecturers) in order to serve on a Senate committee, and

**WHEREAS,** members of the Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee believe that Sherrie Steiner has significantly contributed to leading, coordinating, and organizing the committee work to this date, and all Task Force members would benefit from Sherrie Steiner's continued contributions to the significant work that remains for the Subcommittee to complete,

**WHEREAS,** Sherrie Steiner has indicated that she is willing to continue contributing to the Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee, and

**WHEREAS,** Cigdem Gurgur has indicated that she is willing to serve as Co-Chair with Sherrie Steiner on the Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee, and

**WHEREAS** the Constitution does not specifically prohibit Emeritus faculty from completing service on committees upon their retirement, and

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that an exception be made to allow Sherrie Steiner under Emeritus Status to continue serving on the Ad-Hoc Engagement Subcommittee as Non-Voting Co-Chair for the 2025-2026 Academic Year *and* the 2026-2027 Academic Year, and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that because this proposal involves waiving the Bylaws requirement that ad-hoc committee members who come from the ranks of the Faculty be Teaching Faculty, its approval shall require a two-thirds positive vote of the Senate.

**Approved**  
Cigdem Gurgur  
Sherrie Steiner  
Sam Koudsia  
Craig Ortsey  
Claudio Freitas

**Opposed**

**Abstention**

**Absent**  
Mary Encabo-Bischoff