

MEMORANDUM

TO Jeffrey Nowak, Chair  
Senate Executive Committee

FROM: Jay Johns, Chair  
Faculty Affairs Committee

DATE: 03/27/2026

SUBJ: Revision #1 to COLA Governance Document

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WHEREAS, the Faculty Affairs Committee reviewed the proposed change to COLA’s Governance document.

BE IT RESOLVED, that Senate approve the revision listed below.

| Approved       | Opposed | Abstention | Absent       | Non-Voting |
|----------------|---------|------------|--------------|------------|
| Jay Johns      |         |            | Kim O’Connor |            |
| Wenjia Han     |         |            | Talia Bugel  |            |
| Mark Jordan    |         |            |              |            |
| Sarah Wagner   |         |            |              |            |
| Adam Dirksen   |         |            |              |            |
| Jospeter Mbuba |         |            |              |            |
| Promotes Saha  |         |            |              |            |

**RESOLUTION**

TO: COLA Voting Faculty  
 FROM: Hal Odden (Chair, COLA Executive Committee)  
 DATE: November 3, 2025  
 RE: Revising Promotion & Tenure Committee Nomination Rules

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee's charge includes the periodic review of the committee structure of the College to encourage efficient and effective faculty participation (see 9.2.1.2.7) and to "propose changes to the College of Liberal Arts Faculty Governance Document when necessary" (see 9.2.1.2.8);

WHEREAS, the faculty of smaller departments and programs can experience substantially greater service demands than larger departments when each department or program is required to nominate a faculty member on their behalf;

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee has determined that the need for disciplinary diversity of the College's Promotion and Tenure Committee can be effectively met by electing committee members from two sets of departments with collectively similar numbers of faculty rather than requiring a faculty member be nominated from each department;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that section 12.2.3.3.1 of the COLA Faculty Governance document be amended to read:

**"No more than one member may be elected from any one department or program. At least two of the five committee members must be elected from the combined faculty of the departments of English, History, International Languages and Cultures, and the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. At least two of the five committee members must be elected from the combined faculty of the departments of Anthropology & Sociology, Communication, Criminal Justice, and Political Science. Each department shall nominate one tenured faculty member. Nominees must have prior experience at the department level. If a department has fewer than three tenured Faculty members eligible to serve, the department may choose to submit no nominee. Department chairs or program directors whose departments have pending tenure or promotion cases and members of the campus promotion and tenure committee are ineligible to serve. The ballot shall identify each candidate's department, rank, and tenure status. The dean may not serve as a committee member nor attend College meetings as an observer."**

(Deleted language in strikethrough and added language in bold.)