Policy Statement

The following is an excerpt from the relevant section of the Bylaws. The entire policy can be viewed at https://vpfaa.indiana.edu/policies/bl-aca-d9-bloomington-faculty-bylaws/index.html This amendment will change the nomination process for candidates for the Bloomington Faculty Council.

Under the current nominations process, every eligible member of the Bloomington faculty can be nominated to run for a seat on the BFC, regardless of whether they are interested in serving on the Council. As a result, it often takes the Nomination Committee and the Faculty Council Office several weeks to ask nominees if they are willing to run and to fill the election ballots. By changing to the method proposed in this amendment, the hope is that the nominations process will not only be less time-consuming but also allow for the entire election cycle to run more efficiently and on schedule.

4. Elections

B. Eligibility to vote

iv. Nominations. Seeking candidates. In November January of each year, the Nomination Committee and the Director of Faculty Council Offices shall solicit nominations for representatives to volunteers to nominate themselves as candidates for the Bloomington Faculty Council. The list of all persons eligible to vote (organized by electoral unit and indicating which are tenured and which are non-tenured) shall be distributed to all faculty and librarians. This list shall accompany the nomination ballot. The request for volunteers shall be accompanied by a list of all persons eligible to vote, organized by election unit. The nomination ballot That list shall include the present membership of the Bloomington Faculty Council--indicating which persons will serve an additional year, which are finishing a term but are eligible for re-election, and which are ineligible for re-election under Section 5.5.E of the Constitution of the Bloomington Faculty. That list shall also include the number of seats to be filled from each election unit. Each voter shall be notified as to their election unit and the number of seats to be filled from that election unit. They shall be invited to make twice this number of nominations from that election unit. A separate ballot shall be provided of at-large representatives. Each voter may make three nominations for at-large representatives.
v. The Nomination Committee and the Director of Faculty Council Offices shall also solicit nominations for the Faculty President-elect. Candidates for President-elect shall be selected from the current, elected members of the Bloomington Faculty Council through a process of nomination by fellow Council members. Each candidate must receive a minimum of three nominations to be considered for election. From among those nominated, the Nomination Committee will select at least two, but no more than six, candidates for President-elect, working to ensure diversity in the slate.

vi. Preparing the Election Ballot. Each volunteer may run either in their own unit or as an at-large candidate, but not both. The Director of the Faculty Council Office shall confirm that each volunteer is indeed eligible to run in the unit that they have indicated. All volunteers shall be placed on the final ballot. If there are no volunteers for a tenure-track unit seat, the seat shall be declared vacant and referred to the appropriate unit policy committee to fill the vacancy. If there are not enough volunteers to fill tenure-track at-large seats or non-tenure-track seats, those seats shall be referred to the BFC Nomination Committee to fill the vacancies. Until any seat is filled, the former holder of it shall be invited to continue as the representative regardless of the length of time they have served. In all elections, the candidates who received the most votes shall be elected, regardless of whether they received a majority of votes cast. In the case of a tie, the Director of the Faculty Council Office shall arrange a run-off election between the candidates who tied. For the Bloomington Faculty Council, those persons receiving the most nominating votes in each unit shall be placed on the final ballot, with a total number of candidates at least twice the number of seats to be filled. If the nominating votes are tied between two or more candidates, all such tied candidates will be placed on the final ballot. Up to six additional at-large nominations may be made by the Bloomington Faculty Council’s Nomination Committee. Before any name is placed on the final ballot, the Nomination Committee and the Director of Faculty Council Offices must determine that the nominee is willing to serve if elected. If a person has been nominated for the Bloomington Faculty Council from both an election unit and at-large, the Nomination Committee and the Director of the Faculty Council Offices shall direct the nominee to choose in which one (and only one) of the categories they wish to stand for election. The final ballot shall list the nominees from each election unit. The at-large nominees plus the six nominees from the Nomination Committee will be combined and listed randomly.