



Proposal to create a grant for a Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance

Proposed Motion: Move to create a two year grant for a Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance from Budget _____

Sponsor: VP for Academic Affairs, Zachary Dove

Persons of Contact: Zachary Dove

Guest Speaker: Josie Ellison, Jaleesa Smiley

Date:

Attached Document

Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance Job Description

Background & Context

It is widely acknowledged both in the AS and within University committees that the VP for Academic Affairs position is structurally overworked and under supported. Since the position was created, it has taken on more committees over time as the University grows.

Summary of Proposal

A two year grant will create the funds for a Board Assistant for Academic Shared Governance. There are 3 main areas this new position will cover (see attached job description). First, the position will coordinate with the VP to serve as the designated student representative on committees that the VP is unable to attend- this will ensure that there is at least one student representative on important committees. Second, this position will handle outreach to the student population to ensure that students are aware of decisions being made, and will likewise gather feedback from students on these decisions. Finally, this position will work with the ROP and ESC to develop and implement recommendations for equitable academic policies and inclusive governance practices.

Fiscal Impacts

State any and all fiscal impacts.

Rationale

As the sole student representative on multiple important committees, it is crucial that the VP for Academic Affairs has adequate time to advocate effectively for students and that the VP has the means available to outreach to students and collect feedback. With the current committee load (17), this position is often stretched too thin to focus considerable time and effort on any one issue, which is often required to create change in a bureaucratic process. Additionally, there are reasons to be skeptical of the ability of a single person to represent 15,000 students of diverse identities and interests. There is a considerable amount of responsibility that comes with this, and the wider this responsibility is spread, the better students on this campus will be represented. This position is a two year grant because the AS Structural Review process will hopefully make the need for this position negligible.