

Motion by the Rights and Responsibilities Committee for the Faculty Senate of ECU

Modify the Rules of the Senate, Section VII. B. 2. f. as follows:

Change:

Elected members shall serve no more than two consecutive full year terms.

To:

Elected members shall serve no more than three consecutive full year terms.

Rationale:

1. Currently as many as 30% of ECU faculty senators are non-tenured. By the time they attain tenure, they will very likely have completed their allowable two, 3-year terms on the Senate. They will then be required to rotate off the Senate (having to stay off for at least 1 year) just as they become tenured and presumably more free to speak out on various issues. This is an unfortunate loss for the Senate.
2. The learning curve for Faculty Senate service can be fairly steep for any faculty member, tenured or not. Allowing senators to serve a third term, would strengthen the Senate by ensuring a greater degree of experience and institutional memory on the part of senators.
3. It would be entirely at the discretion of individual departments whether a senator is re-elected for a third term. This change would simply allow for that possibility.