Moorpark College Academic Senate

White Paper on Proposed Update to By-Laws, Pt. 1 (Draft 3, dated 13 January, 2015)

*Reminder: The Constitution defines the purpose and charter of the local Senate and is a stable, long term document. These By-Laws define the process by which the Senate will function and are intended to allow modifications to reflect changes as needed.*

Summary of Changes

Order of articles:

 Rearranged to follow the order of the Constitution.

Article III: Procedures

Includes the Senate’s Faculty Statement of Ethics as a guide for its work.

Article IV: The Academic Senate Membership

This now attempts to list the prerogatives of the members, including the right to “access

all information relevant to the business of the Senate”. *Do we need to add anything here?*

 Most important is (5), giving members the right to initiate action if Council does not

respond through regular requests. It states that 10% or more members (about 50) can petition to have an issue discussed, either in a General Meeting or in Council as they requests. If then discussed and voted on in Council, the issue would be approved by a majority of representatives. If discussed and voted on in a General Meeting it would be approved by a majority of members voting provided a third or more of the general membership takes part in the vote (about 160 faculty).

Article V: General Meetings

 This states there needs to be a General Meeting at least once a year, and to be quorate it

needs at least one third of the membership to show (about 160 faculty). *Note: we*

 *have never achieved this number of people to my knowledge; should we lower this?*

Article VI: Senate Council

 Sections A and B:

 No substantive changes, just clearer we hope!

 Section C: Department reps

 There is very little in our current version; this attempts to be more specific in the

 duties of the reps and that they should be elected.