

Example – Reorganization and Creation of New Titles

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST: Administrative Reorganization and Creation of New Titles

EXISTING TITLE: Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

RECOMMENDED TITLES: Associate Dean for Humanities, Associate Dean for Natural Sciences, and Associate Dean for Social Sciences, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2006

The Dean of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts reviewed the administrative structure of the College and consulted with colleagues among arts and sciences deans in the Committee on Institutional Cooperation and the Association of American Universities. He discovered that in every university of comparable size the liberal arts college is organized divisionally or there are separate colleges of science, social science, and humanities. We have been organized divisionally in some ways for many years; for example, elections to the Executive Committee and the divisional review committees for promotion and tenure. The Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies has also been organized divisionally for some time.

Thus, the College is organizing academic affairs along the lines of divisions (humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences) to create a structure that better supports the core missions of teaching, research, and service. In the current structure, the separation of faculty hiring, research funding, and departmental planning into separate offices makes it difficult to obtain an integrated view of the intellectual enterprise of the College. The new structure will expand the functions of academic affairs, which currently includes hiring and promotion, to encompass research (i.e., support for funded research and response to requests for research funding) and planning (i.e., supervision of departmental plans and external reviews) in the offices of Associate Deans for Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences. These divisional associate deans will provide leadership and support for the careers of the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences faculty in the College. To maintain interdisciplinary efforts, each of these associate deans will have access to funding to support interdisciplinary efforts in research and teaching both within and across the divisions.

The Associate Deans for Humanities, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences will work under the direct supervision of the Dean and will attend Executive Committee meetings.

We respectfully request that the Regents endorse this request by the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts to rename the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs as the Associate Dean for Humanities, Associate Dean for Natural Sciences, and Associate Dean for Social Sciences.

Recommended by:

Recommendation endorsed by:

Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
Professor of History and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Teresa A. Sullivan, Provost and
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

May 2006