


ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

To: Brenda Hosley
President, University Senate &
Chair, University Academic Council

From: Robert E. Page, Jr.
University Provost



Date: May 18, 2015

Re: Senate Motions 2015-67, "Emeritus Status Policy Revisions"

I have reviewed Senate Motion 2015-67, "Emeritus Status Policy Revisions", following review by the Office of the General Counsel. The intent of the revisions in Senate Motion 2015-67 is said to be to clarify the process and criteria for seeking emeritus status.

The granting of emeritus status is a discretionary power provided to the President by the Arizona Board of Regents. ACD 607-01 is the shared governance policy which indicates how that discretion is put into practice.

As to clarifying the current criteria, I believe the current policy describes the criteria clearly as it stands. The various terms in the policy are fully defined in ACD 002, and those terms are hyperlinked in the online version. Thus, I do not believe the motion adds any clarity to those criteria not already present in the current policy.

With respect to clarifying the process, it is important to note that steps have been taken to greatly clarify the emeritus process already over the past six months, and the process is now embodied fully in terms of the documents that must be filed in order to retire whether one is seeking emeritus status or not. However, since a faculty member likely will not encounter that paperwork until he or she chooses to retire, I will have a process page created that fully spells out the process used to seek emeritus status. I will have that page added to the set of process pages for academic personnel processes that is publicly available on the Provost's website.

Beyond the intention of clarifying the process and criteria, Senate Motion 2015-67 also seeks to markedly change the current policy to permit a person to apply for emeritus status at any time after retirement. The current policy recognizes the importance of a timely review of the case presented for emeritus status, and the current policy requires that review to take place prior to retirement. This ensures that the relevant materials and people are available at the time the decision is made. I do not approve the proposed change.

The remaining change in the motion to the current policy is to update the language under benefits of emeritus status. This updating of the language will be performed as a technical correction.