Amendment to Motion SF09/10-1 to provide a separate Senate seat for a Clark Honors College representative

Sponsors:  Daniel Rosenberg, Honors College  
           Robert Kyr, School of Music and Dance

Preamble: The university recognizes the Clark Honors College as one of its academic colleges. The CHC has its own dean who reports directly to the provost; it is responsible for its budget, and it has 15 full-time tenure-related faculty whose appointments are solely in the College and 700 students who graduate with degrees from the College. The Academic Plan affirms the centrality of the Clark Honors College to the mission of the University of Oregon.

The tenure-related faculty in the Clark Honors College seeks to represent the interests of the College’s students and faculty in the senate. It is inappropriate to group the College with "other academic units" such as the Department of Physical Education and Recreation and the Teaching and Learning Center whose missions are fundamentally different from those of the university’s colleges. The CHC faculty shares the research, teaching, and service responsibilities of the faculties of the other colleges and schools with academic programs, and like them, it has distinct curricular and structural concerns that require representation in the senate. The fact that the CHC is a small college is among the principal reasons why it needs its own voice in the senate.

To govern effectively and fairly the new senate must balance the need to represent the concerns of individual faculty members and those of the university’s several colleges and schools. This is well recognized in the current plan through the distribution of seats among the other colleges (rather than through an at-large process). However, in relation to the Clark Honors College, the current distribution of seats serves only the former and not the latter aim. In so doing, it leaves the CHC with no effective senate voice.

The current proposal overlooks the structural need for representation of the Clark Honors College in the university senate. Providing the CHC with a single seat in an assembly of more than 50 would provide such representation while maintaining the principles of representation embodied in the rest of the proposal.

Whereas, membership in the University Senate is distributed among constituent groups including all of the academic colleges and schools of the University of Oregon that have faculties of their own, and

Whereas, representation of the needs and concerns of the Clark Honors College is essential both to the successful functioning of the College and that of the University,
Be it moved that, Sections 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, and 8.1.4 of the revised internal governance document be amended to the following:

4.1 The Senate shall consist of 51-54 Members distributed amongst the constituent groups as follows:

- 37 Statutory Faculty
- 2 Librarians
- 3 Officers of Administration
- 5 Students
- 3 Classified Staff
- 1 Career Non-Tenure Track Research Faculty

4.2 The Senate shall elect its President and Vice President from among the Statutory Faculty according to the Senate’s By Laws. The chair of the Academic Council (SECTION 8.1.5) shall also have a seat in the Senate. If these officers are not from among the 37 Statutory Faculty members of the Senate, the Statutory Faculty membership of the Senate may rise to 40, raising total membership as high as 54.

4.3 The thirty-seven Statutory Faculty senators shall represent each college/school as follows:

College of Arts and Sciences (22):
- 8 Humanities
- 9 Natural Sciences
- 5 Social Sciences

Professional Schools and Colleges (13):
- 4 Architecture and Allied Arts
- 2 Business
- 3 Education
- 1 Journalism and Communication
- 1 Law
- 2 Music and Dance

Clark Honors College (1)

Other academic units (1) (e.g., Bend Program, Labor Education & Research Center, Museum of Natural and Cultural History, Physical Education & Recreation, Teaching & Learning Center)

8.1.4 No motions shall be debated or voted on in the absence of a majority of the Senate membership. The quorum requirement remains half plus one of the prescribed membership (51-54, see SECTION 4.1) even if some Senate positions are unfilled.