Restructuring Internal Governance

3 issues have arisen which have prompted faculty leaders to consider the possibility of restructuring internal governance:

• Internal governance is subject to review and modification when a new University President assumes office.

• Vacancies on the Senate suggest that change is required to re-engage faculty in the internal governance of the University.

• Dept. of Justice has provided a draft opinion to our question regarding quorum and voting requirements of the Assembly which recommends that the statutory faculty have a mechanism to meet/vote.
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Outlining a mechanism for the statutory faculty to meet/vote:

• Statutory faculty are currently defined as full-time tenured and tenure-track teaching professors, career NTTF, and the University President.

• Statutory Faculty Meetings may be convened by the University President, by an affirmative vote of the University Senate, or after submission to the Secretary of the Faculty of a valid petition signed by a minimum of 10% of the Statutory Faculty.

• Minimum quorum of 20% of the total membership must be in attendance for motions or resolutions to be considered. A motion or resolution shall pass upon an affirmative vote by a majority of members in attendance.

• Voting on motions or resolutions may also occur via a web-based mechanism. Minimum quorum and voting requirements shall be the same as those for physical meetings.
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Discuss whether and how to change internal governance:

• Create Faculty Senate:
  - Small representational body of the statutory faculty
  - Considers only issues directly related to the academics - promotion & tenure; faculty salaries; student conduct, academic plan, etc.

• University Senate still exists:
  - Communication - Faculty Senate president and vice-president also serve these roles in University Senate.
  - Considers issues of broad concern to the UO community - parking, athletics, campus planning, etc.
  - Reapportion University Senate by reducing the number of faculty seats and increasing the number of seats for OAs, classified staff, and students.
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Statutory faculty to meet/vote on changes:

- Consider pros and cons of creating a Faculty Senate or maintaining status quo (fall-winter).

- Goal is to provide a draft of a revised internal governance document which reflects any changes to the incoming University President (spring).

- Once the new President has provided feedback the statutory faculty will ratify the new governance document (spring).

- New structure can take effect as early as Fall 2009.