

Internal Governance Committee Report to the University Senate 11/11/09

The Internal Governance Committee has been charged by President Lariviere with making revisions in the internal governance structure to bring it into compliance with the November 2008 DOJ opinion concerning the quorum and voting requirements of the statutory faculty. The work of the committee has progressed to the point that we are ready to seek input and feedback from the broader UO community. We encourage such feedback from the entire community although, ultimately, it will be the statutory faculty who need to vote on any revisions that are made.

The timeline by which we envision this occurring is as follows:

Fall 2009

- Appoint Internal Governance Committee
- Identify outstanding issues
- Draft 3-5 alternative internal governance models
- Solicit input/feedback from UO community via website
- Hold Town Hall meeting to discuss pros/cons of each alternate model
- Get initial input from President Lariviere

Winter 2010

- Compile input/feedback and revise alternatives
- Solicit additional input/feedback from UO community via website
- Hold Statutory faculty meeting to select one of the alternatives
- Revise/refine and add detail to the selected alternative

Spring 2010

- Present the new enabling legislation to President Lariviere for his consideration
- Make adjustments to faculty elections process as required (delay may be needed in elections if implementation is late in Spring term)

The committee has identified a number of goals and priorities that we feel should be the focus of internal governance independent of any restructuring that may occur. These can be broadly categorized into the general goals of the internal governance structure and the current and ongoing priorities:

General Goals:

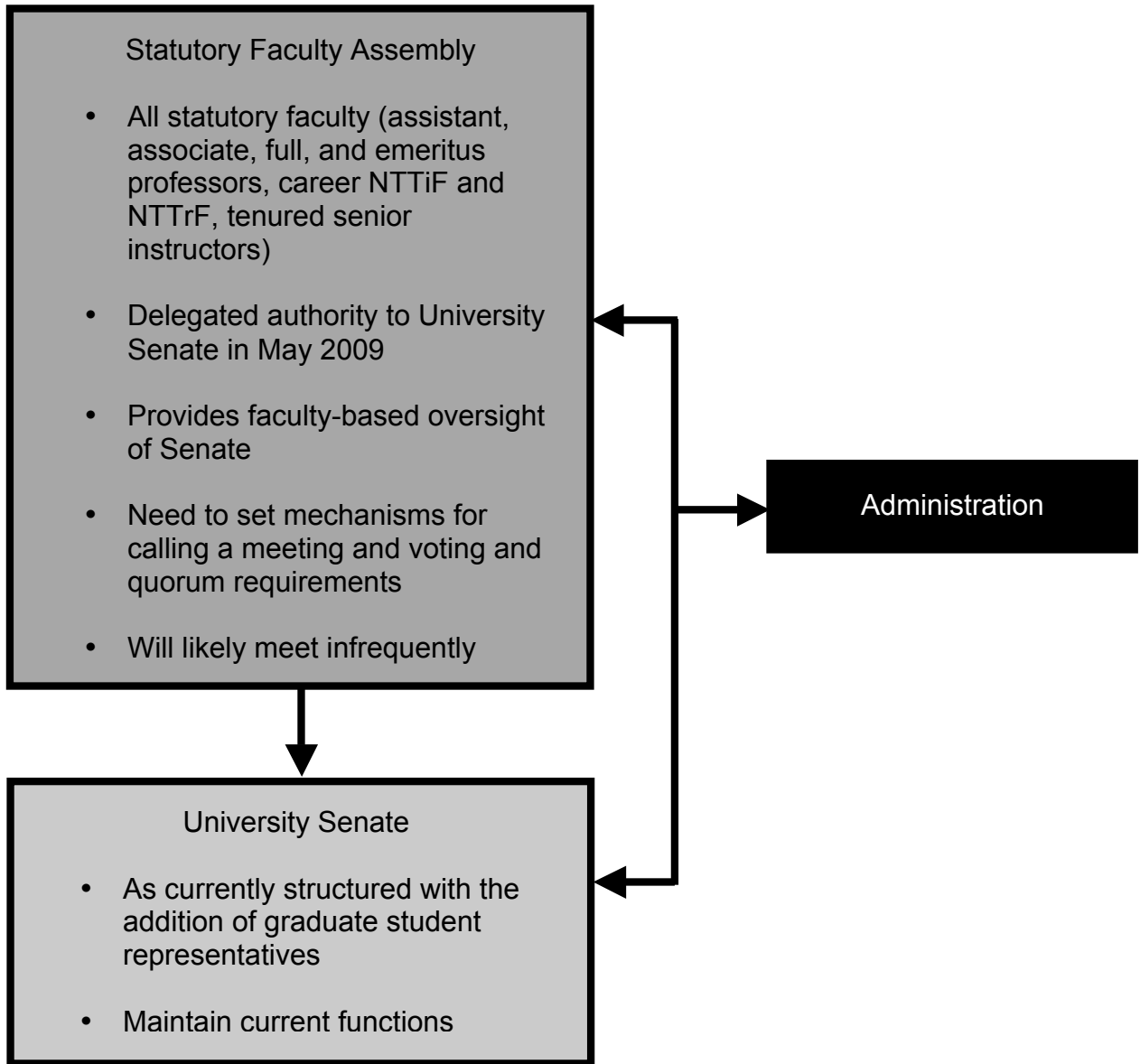
1. mechanism for statutory faculty to meet
2. mechanism for statutory faculty to oversee whatever elected body or bodies carry out day-to-day governance functions
3. broad based representation of UO community
4. ability to respond to matters that arise with reasonable speed
5. procedures that define how president can respond to matters coming from elected body (e.g. recommendations vs. directives)
6. possible consolidation of various types of committees (e.g. elected vs. appointed; committees established by elected body or bodies vs. committees established by central administration)

Current and Ongoing Priorities:

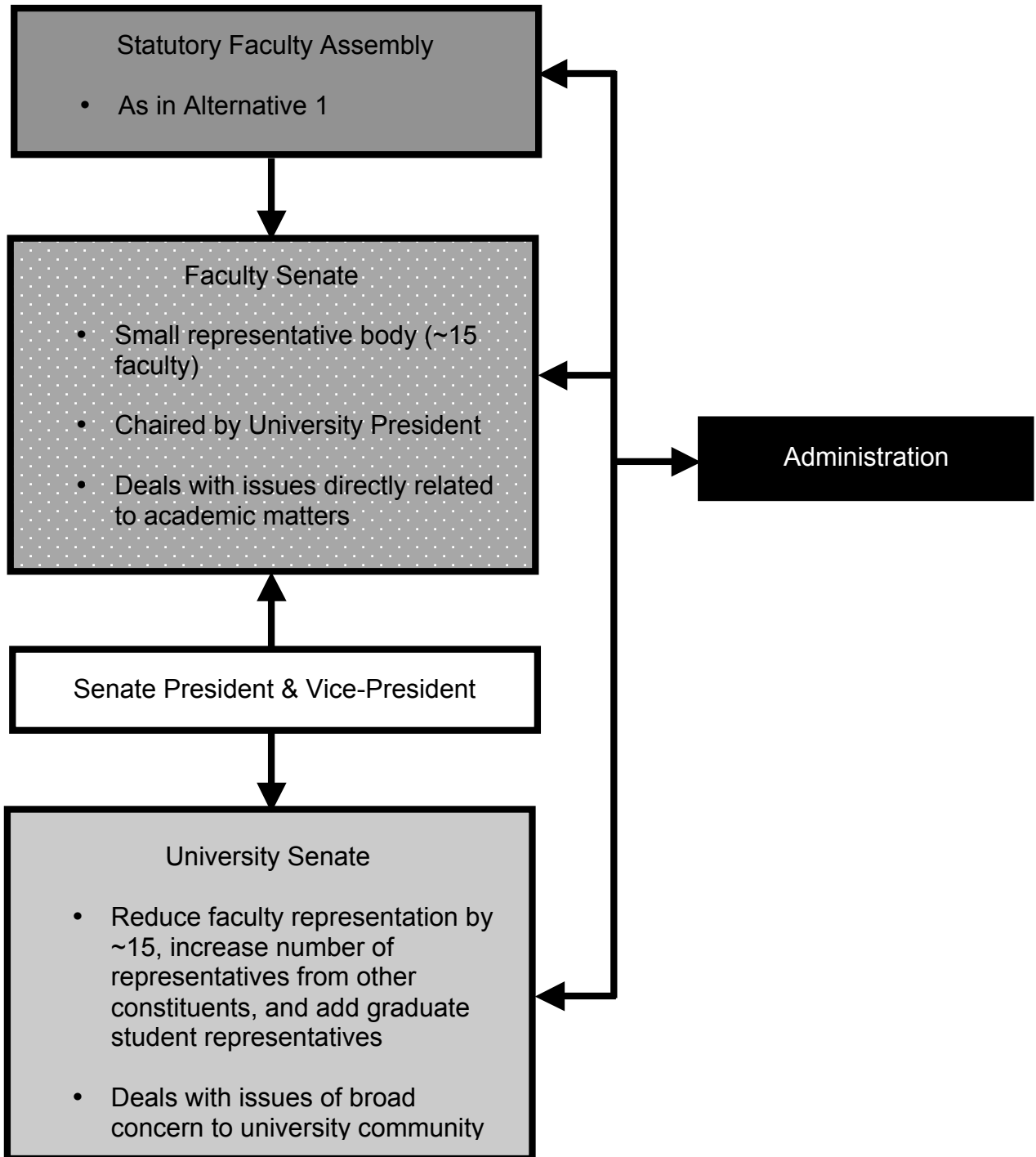
1. curricular matters and the impact of budgetary decisions on the curriculum
2. other issues related to budget
3. student conduct/discipline
4. student life issues
5. personnel policies
6. admissions policies
7. issues related to space
8. issues related to parking
9. issues related to faculty insurance liability
10. issues related to faculty grievances

The DoJ opinion specifies that the statutory faculty should have a means to meet independent of the University Senate. There are a number of alternative means by which this can be achieved:

Alternative 1



Alternative 2



Other Issues:

Applicability of Oregon Public Meetings Law – we will hear shortly from the General Counsel on this issue.

Mechanism for electing Senate Vice-President – there are several motions that will be discussed and voted upon concerning this issue later in this meeting. The committee has also had some discussion about this including the idea of opening up the voting for the Senate Vice-President to all the statutory faculty.