Background

The Campus Diversity Plan Oversight Committee has been contemplating possible revisions to Faculty Policies and Procedures 6.27., which defines the committee’s structure and functions, at least since 2005. The proposed amendments are the result of ongoing discussions and input from the many individuals who have served on the committee since its inception, as well as others who are committed to its goal of a welcoming, supportive and inclusive campus environment. The current name reflects only one aspect of the committee’s role and purpose. The proposed name change would represent better the broad scope of issues, policies and programs that the administration, faculty, staff, and students bring to its attention. In addition, including the word “climate” in the name would help to focus on the importance of a positive campus climate, where each individual feels respected, valued and supported, toward achieving a diverse community. Other changes would slightly decrease the committee’s total membership while extending participation to all categories of university employees, and would define more succinctly its functions.

6.27. CAMPUS DIVERSITY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

   A. MEMBERSHIP. The Campus Diversity and Climate Committee shall consist of the following members:

1. The chancellor, or his/her designee, who shall co-chair the committee.
2. The committee shall select a co-chair from among its voting members.
3. Four faculty appointed by the Committee on Committees.
4. Four academic staff.
5. Four students.
6. Four classified staff, two represented and two nonrepresented, appointed by the chancellor after consultation with the Office of Classified Human Resources, the Council for Nonrepresented Classified Staff, and represented labor groups.
7. Two alumni appointed by the chancellor after consultation with the Wisconsin Alumni Association.
8. Two community representatives appointed by the chancellor.
9. The chancellor or provost may appoint ex-officio nonvoting members, or the committee may appoint consultants.
10. Faculty, staff, alumni, and community representatives appointed under A.3., A.4., A.6., A.7., and A.8. shall serve three-year staggered terms and may be reappointed to second consecutive three-year terms. Students selected under A.5. shall serve renewable one-year terms.

(continued)
B. FUNCTIONS. This shared governance body advises the administration, the faculty, the academic staff, the classified staff, and the recognized student governance organization on campus diversity and climate policy, which strives to create an environment where each individual feels respected, valued and supported, while respecting academic freedom and freedom of speech.

1. Provides for faculty, staff, and student participation in long-range planning.
2. Meets twice annually with the chancellor and provost to discuss policy and progress.
3. Hears reports from groups, units, programs, and administrators.
4. Holds the annual campus-wide policy and progress forum.
5. Assists the administration in the preparation of annual reports to the UW System, Faculty Senate, Academic Staff Assembly, the Council for Nonrepresented Classified Staff, represented labor groups, and student governance body.
6. Meets periodically with deans and directors to discuss policy and progress.
7. Collaborates with other groups, programs, and units on matters of diversity and climate.