

Outline

The Provost has asked Faculty Senate to assume responsibility for the evaluation of academic programs and courses and the CORE program at MSU. Marvin Lansverk and John Neumeier have had discussions over the summer with the President, Provost, and former Associate Provost Jeff Adams, who served for numerous years as the chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee. We also hosted the chair of faculty senate at UM, Neil Moisey, to learn about how they handle curriculum evaluation.

Present Process

Responsibilities for curriculum changes (course and program) are distributed across several committees.

The **Undergraduate Studies Committee**, chaired through the Provost's office, examines all new undergraduate courses and programs, and is the chief conduit for catalogue changes.

The **Core Curriculum Committee** and its subgroups (also chaired through the Provost's office) reviews proposals for changes in Core 2.0.

Faculty Senate's Academic Affairs Committee, reviews proposals for new majors, minors, degrees, programs, and centers.

Finally, **Graduate Council** is responsible for reviewing graduate courses and programs.

Proposal 1 – *A single committee*

Committee Charge

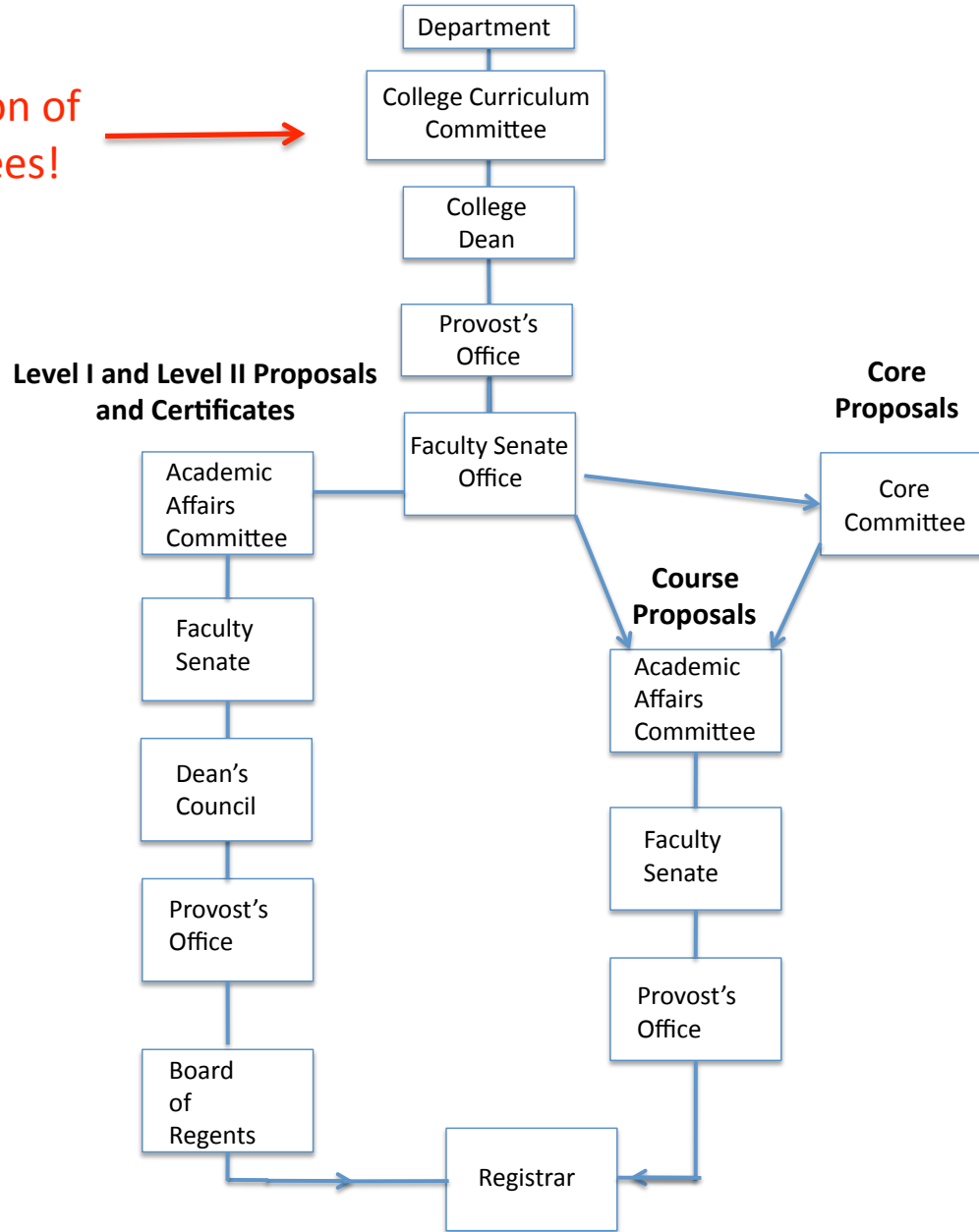
Review proposals for all undergraduate programs (proposals for new majors, minors, degrees, certificates, programs, centers, institutes, the CORE curriculum) and courses, request for changes, additions, or deletions of courses and programs on a continuing basis. Consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, impacts on existing programs, fiscal soundness, duplication of effort, conflicts of academic interest, and fit with the University's strategic plan and academic strategic plan. The committee will also be responsible for evaluating academic policies. We are not yet sure about how to deal with graduate courses and programs, but these would also, eventually, fall under Faculty Senate's responsibility.

We also need to consider how academic policy changes will be handled.

Note that the Provost's office will be providing support for either proposal.

Level I and Level II Proposals, Course Proposals, and Certificates

Requires formation of College Committees!



Academic Affairs Membership

Voting Members (12)

Chair (chair-elect of Faculty Senate)

Student, nominated through ASMSU

Gallatin College Programs

College of Letters and Science (2 members, 1 from Science, 1 from Letters)

Engineering

Agriculture

Education and Human Development

Arts and Architecture

Nursing

Business

Libraries

Ex Officio Members (4)

Registrar or designate

Office of Student Success Representative

Associate Provost

Universities Studies Representative

Key aspects of Proposal 1

Requires that each college have its own curriculum review committee. This is NOT the case at present. These committees provide the *expert* review.

The present CORE committee structure would stay intact.

Membership of the Academic Affairs Committee is essentially identical to the current UG Studies Committee. The main difference is that it would be chaired by the Chair-Elect of Faculty Senate.

After the Academic Affairs Committee its their evaluations, they will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for approval in the form of a consent agenda.

Academic policy changes need to be addressed as well. Jeff Adams indicated that these are generally not too time consuming. Perhaps they could be added to the Academic Affairs Committee Charge or they could be handed over to our current Faculty Affairs Committee.

Provides some streamlining of the present process (good, and a goal of the Provost).

Incorporation of Graduate Courses into this structure is important, but not yet complete.

Proposal 2 – Two Committees (*Most similar to what we currently do*)

Committee Charges

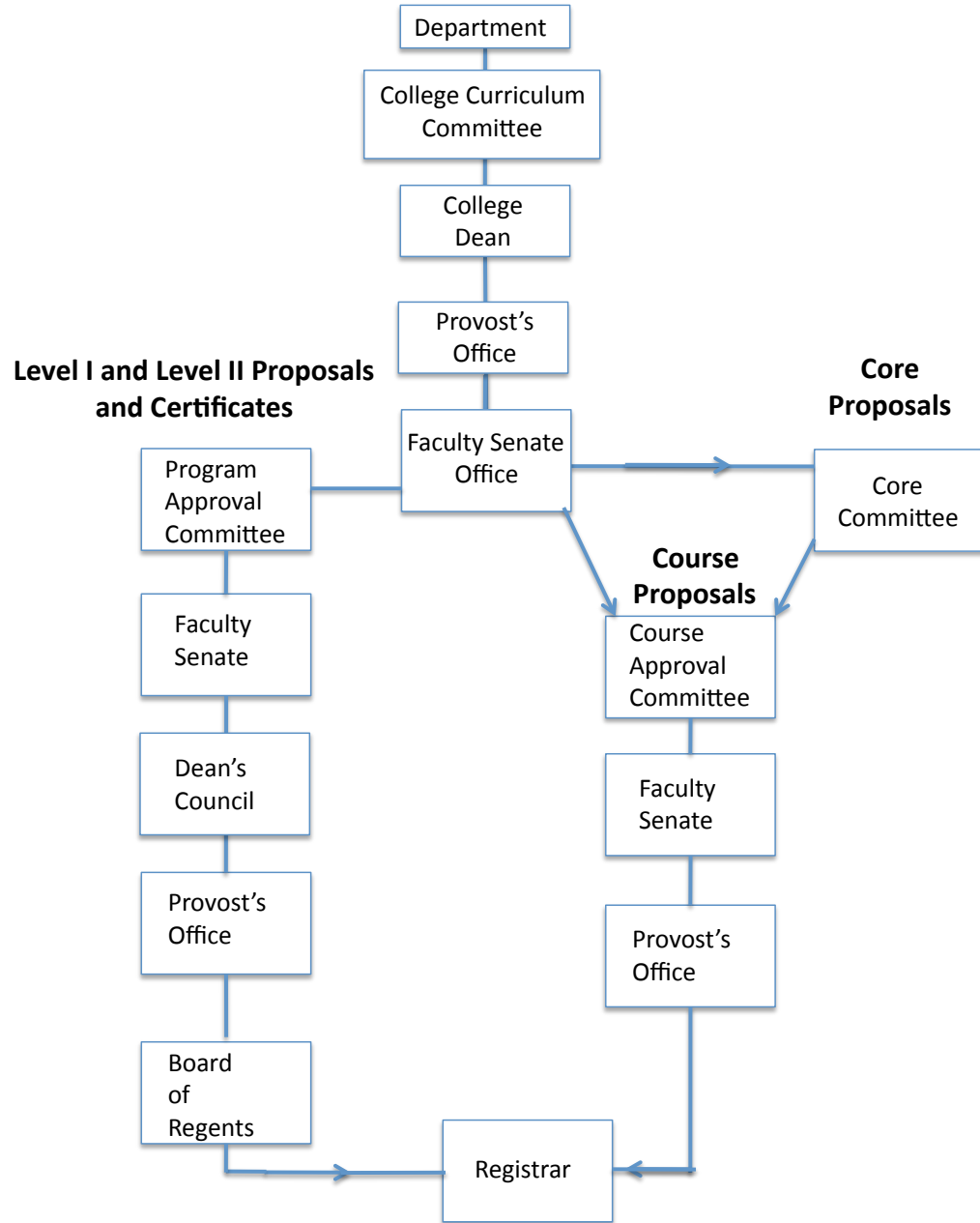
Program Review Committee (Equivalent to existing FS Academic Affairs)

Review proposals for all undergraduate programs (proposals for new majors, minors, degrees, certificates, programs, centers, institutes). Consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, impacts on existing programs, fiscal soundness, duplication of effort, conflicts of academic interest, and fit with the University's strategic plan and academic strategic plan. The committee will also be responsible for evaluating academic policies.

Course Review Committee (Equivalent to UG Studies)

Review all undergraduate programs and courses, requests for changes, additions, or deletions on a continuing basis. Consider such aspects as academic soundness, impact on library and other institutional resources, duplication of effort, and conflicts of academic interest.

Level I and Level II Proposals, Course Proposals, and Certificates



Key Aspects of Proposal 2

Is essentially the *status quo*, with the main change that the Program Approval Committee and Course Approval Committee would be chaired through the Faculty Senate.

No *requirement* that each college have a college curriculum committee, but this would certainly be a good idea.

CORE committee structure would remain intact.

Academic policy changes need to be addressed as well. Jeff Adams indicated that these are generally not too time consuming. As suggested above, they could be added to the Program Review Committee, or they could be handed over to our current Faculty Affairs Committee.

This proposal does not really streamline the process.

Value of having two committees is that the throughput may be more efficient. It would also split the workload.

The Faculty Senate would elect a person to chair the Course Review Committee and the Chair-Elect of Faculty Senate would chair the Program Review Committee.