At several times during the past sessions of the Faculty Senate, questions have arisen regarding the wisdom of convening a new Senate during March. Chairpersons Phil Constans and Tom Jones have both felt that this procedure was inefficient, and chairs of several standing committees have complained of inactivity among committee members prior to the reorganization in March.

After consultation with chairs of standing committees and much discussion among the members of the BAE Committee, we propose the following changes in the Constitution.

III. B. 3. The terms of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary-Treasurer and Parliamentarian shall begin with their election at the regular May meeting of the Faculty Senate.

III. C. 3. Elections of Officers, the Executive Committee and the Standing Committees

a. Election of Committees: During the week following the election of the at-large senators (exclusive of vacations), the outgoing member of the By-Laws, Amendments and Elections Committee from each college shall call a caucus of the senators from that college who will be serving during the forthcoming year, together with the out-going senators from that college.

The purpose of this caucus is three-fold:
   i) The current members of the Senate shall provide the newly-elected members with a brief orientation to the Faculty Senate.
   ii) The current members of the Senate shall provide a description of the duties and responsibilities of each of the standing committees.
   iii) The senators who will be serving during the forthcoming year shall elect from their number one senator on each of the standing committees, commencing with the May meeting of the Faculty Senate.

b. Election of the Officers of the Faculty Senate: At the May meeting of the Faculty Senate, the senators who will be serving during the forthcoming year shall elect by secret ballot one from their number to serve as Chairperson of the Faculty Senate, one to serve as Vice-Chairperson, one to serve as Secretary-Treasurer, and one to serve as Parliamentarian.

c. Election of Committee Chairpersons: At the same May meeting of the Faculty Senate, each of the standing committees which will be serving during the forthcoming year shall caucus and elect a chairperson from its membership.