Resolution: Change from Vice Chair to ***Chair-Elect/Past-Chair***

(Rules Committee Fall 2012 Proposal – Chair has TWO YEAR term and THREE OFFICERS at all times)

Whereas, the Chair of the Faculty is a critical and complex service position;

Whereas, smooth transitions of informed leadership are critical to continued effectiveness of the Chair as a critical vehicle of faculty voice,

Be it resolved that:

1. WCU will switch to a Chair-Elect/Past-Chair position in place of the Vice Chair as of the Spring 2013 university elections.
2. The following changes will be made to Section 3 of the WCU Faculty Constitution. Changes are in ***bold italic***:

Section 3. Organization

***The officers of the General Faculty shall be Chair of the Faculty, the Chair-Elect or Past-Chair (whoever is in office) of the Faculty, and the Secretary of the Faculty. The Chair of the Faculty will serve a two-year term. A Chair-Elect will be elected prior to the second year of the Chair's term. The one-year term of the Chair-Elect will serve as a training period for the responsibilities to be assumed.***

I.3.1 The Chair of the Faculty shall be the presiding officer in General Faculty meetings except on those occasions when the Chancellor elects to preside.

I.3.2 The ***Chair-Elect or Past-Chair (whoever is in office)*** of the Faculty shall preside in the absence of the Chair.

I.3.3 The Secretary of the Faculty shall keep a record of all proceedings related to meetings of the General Faculty or of the Faculty Senate.

1. The following changes will be made to Section I.7 of the WCU Faculty Constitution. Changes are in ***bold italic***:

I.7.1 Those eligible for the office of Chair, or ***Chair-Elect, or Past-Chair,*** or Secretary of the Faculty must be full-time and devote at least one-half time to teaching or other academic duties excluding administration. Questions of eligibility shall be resolved by the Committee on Nominations, Elections, and Committees.

I.7.3 The Chair of the Faculty shall serve for a term of two years.

I.7.4 The ***Chair-Elect or Past-Chair (whoever is in office)*** of the Faculty shall serve in the absence of the Chair. The ***Chair-Elect/Past-Chair*** shall be a member of the Senate Planning Team and shall chair the Rules Committee.

I.7.5 The ***Chair-Elect*** of the Faculty shall serve for a term of ***one year and succeed as Chair of the Faculty for a term of two years***.

**I.7.6 *At the end of the Chair of the Faculty’s two-year term, on July 1, the Chair will transition to the Past-Chair office and the Chair-Elect will take office as Chair of the Faculty.***

I.7.***7*** The Secretary of the Faculty shall keep minutes of all meetings of the General Faculty and of the Faculty Senate. The Secretary of the Faculty shall add these minutes to the Faculty Senate webpage in a timely fashion and archive them in a permanent location in the Provost’s Office. The Secretary of the Faculty shall keep records of all committee reports submitted to the Chair of the Faculty or the Faculty Senate. The Secretary of the Faculty shall be ex officio Secretary of the Faculty Senate, the Senate Planning Team, and the Committee on Nominations, Elections, and Committees. The Secretary of the Faculty shall keep records of all elections conducted by those committees. The website for meeting minutes is: http://www.wcu.edu/25154.asp.

I.7.***8*** The Secretary of the Faculty shall serve for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election. Nominations and elections shall be held in the spring term every third year, and the person elected shall take office on the following July 1.

I.7.***9*** Nominations for ***Chair-Elect*** and Secretary of the Faculty shall be made by the Committee on Nominations, Elections, and Committees at least three weeks before the date of the election. Additional nominees may be added to the ballot by written nomination signed by twenty-five faculty members and submitted to the Committee on Nominations, Elections, and Committees at least two weeks before the date of election. CONEC shall select and submit the names of qualified nominees for each office to its secretary for publication of the ballot. The nominee receiving the highest number of votes in the election shall be declared elected, unless he or she has failed to receive greater than 50% of the votes cast. In that event, a run-off election shall be held between the persons receiving the highest and the next highest number of votes. The person receiving the highest number of votes in the run-off election shall be declared elected.