Rationale:
During the past few years, the Faculty Council on University Relations (FCUR) has been operating almost exclusively as a special committee on honorary degrees, with responsibility established in 2002 by Class B legislation in the University Handbook (Volume Four, Part III, Chapter 11) for recommending candidates for honorary degrees to the President. Because of financial exigencies in the Office of University Committees, and because the current Associate Vice President is willing to take on the staffing of this Committee, the following proposal was drafted:

Proposal:
To create a Special Committee on Honorary Degrees that will be staffed by the Office of the Associate Vice President for Media Relations and Communications. The Associate Vice President chairs the University’s Committee on Ceremonies and is the President’s designee to the Council or Committee managing honorary degrees. This Committee will continue to provide faculty input and oversight to the process, as described in the University Handbook, of selecting and nominating individuals for honorary degrees at the University of Washington. The Committee would be chaired by a faculty member elected from the Committee membership, and would consist of seven members of the voting faculty serving three-year, overlapping terms. The first seven members of the Committee would be drawn from the current membership of the Faculty Council on University Relations, with additional members recruited, as needed, and appointed by the Faculty Senate. The Committee would report to the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) and would be required to deliver a brief, yearly annual report on its activities at the penultimate SEC meeting of the academic year.

Faculty Code provision for this action:
Section 21-60. Faculty Councils and Faculty Committees Defined--Power to Appoint

A. The standing committees of the University faculty, authorized by Section 13-31.B, shall be designated Faculty Councils.

B. The power to select and appoint the chair and members of each Faculty Council is delegated by the University Faculty to the Senate.

C. The term “faculty committee” or “committee of the faculty” as used in Chapters 21, 22, 25, 41 and 42 means a special or an ad hoc committee of the University Faculty, of the Senate, or of a Faculty Council, appointed by the Senate, or by the Senate Executive Committee, or by a Faculty Council and responsible to the Senate, or to the Executive Committee, or to a Faculty Council.

S-A 29, June 8, 1964: with Presidential approval.

Submitted by: Marcia Killien, Secretary of the Faculty  
November 16, 2009

Approved by: Senate Executive Committee  
November 16, 2009

Approved by: Faculty Senate  
December 3, 2009