Article

I: NAME

The name of the committee shall be the President’s Staff Advisory Council (SAC).

Article

II: MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the President’s Staff Advisory Council is to facilitate active and direct communication between University staff and senior administration, and to provide a forum for input and discussion of issues important to the staff and the University.

In support of this mission, SAC’s guiding principles are to:

- Act as advisers to the president and senior administrators with the aim of creating a positive working environment for all University employees;
- Provide staff input into Brown University’s decision-making processes that directly affect staff;
- Select staff members to serve on important institutional committees;
- Provide input on policies and procedures which pertain to or impact staff and the University community;
- Establish sub-committees and ad hoc groups to develop activities that strive to continually improve communication and morale through special educational, recreational, informational, and community service events;
- Encourage social responsibility and service to the University and the surrounding community;
- Provide a supportive network to collaborate with the University in communicating and achieving its goals.

Article

III: MEMBERSHIP
The membership of the Council shall be limited to not more than twenty members appointed by the president (excluding members who have filled vacancies and past co-chairs). The president may appoint ex-officio members including a SAC Adviser at his/her discretion.

SECTION 1. TYPES OF MEMBERS

a. The membership of the Council shall be selected in accordance with Article IV. The Council shall make every effort to maintain a diverse membership.

b. The appointed ex-officio members of the Council shall be determined by the president.

SECTION 2. TERM OF SERVICE

A full term is two years. The only exception to this would be the Co-Chairs, whose status changes to Past Co-Chairs at the end of their second year, will continue until Co-Chairs have been appointed (usually by July 31).

SECTION 3. FORMER MEMBER PARTICIPATION

At the discretion of the co-chairs and/or subcommittee chairs, a Former Member may participate in new or ongoing business. A Former Member shall not have voting privileges nor serve as an officer or in a co-chair/chair capacity.

SECTION 4. ELIGIBILITY

Any non-union University staff member who meets the following criteria is eligible to serve on SAC:

He/she has two or more total years of regular University service prior to the start of his/her term as a SAC member; and

He/she serves in a regular position that is designated as 80% time or greater.

SECTION 5. RESIGNATIONS

A member wishing to resign from the Council shall submit his/her resignation in writing to the president of the University, the ex-officio advisors and the Council co-chairs.

SECTION 6. REMOVALS
A member of the Council may be removed from membership for any of the following:

a. Two absences at full Council meetings without notification;

b. Non-attendance at subcommittee meetings;

c. Other causes as determined by the full Council whenever, in its judgment, the best interests of the University would be served by removal.

When informed of non-compliance of any Council member(s), the co-chairs will investigate the situation. If the findings indicate that further action should be taken, the co-chairs will notify the full Council at the first meeting of the following month where:

a. The floor will be opened for discussion of the situation;

b. The member will be afforded the opportunity to respond;

c. A secret ballot will be cast to determine removal from the Council by a simple majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

SECTION 7. FILLING OF VACANCIES

The co-chairs will activate one of the following procedures to fill any vacant positions. These recommendations must be approved by the full Council by majority vote of the members present at the meeting:

a. Recommend a staff member from the membership alternate pool, making selection based on order created by the selection committee;

b. Delegate to the Membership Selection Board the responsibility of making a nominee recommendation to the full Council;

c. Recommend a Former Member who has served a full term and been off the Council for at least twelve months.

Those filling vacant positions will have the following term option:

a. Complete the term of the member whose position they have taken over.

Article

IV: MEMBERSHIP SELECTION

The Membership Selection Board shall review all applications filed and make recommendations to the full Council. For
each Council opening, the board shall present one nominee.

a. The membership of the Council shall be selected by a Membership Selection Board consisting of the current SAC Advisers, the current SAC co-chairs, the current SAC co-chairs-elect, the current SAC past co-chairs (if applicable), and three current members.

b. A written application must be filed by December 1 with the Membership Selection Board, which will screen and review all applications.

c. The Membership Selection Board will submit to the full Council one nominee for each Council opening and a list of five (5) alternates in priority order which shall stay in place until the next selection process occurs.

d. All nominees and alternates must be approved by the full Council by a majority vote of the members present at the meeting.

e. The Membership Selection Board will submit the full Council’s recommendations to the president for approval.

f. The new members’ terms will commence in January.

Article

V: OFFICERS AND RECORDING SECRETARY

The Officers of the Council shall be two co-chairs, co-chairs elect, past co-chair(s), and ex-officio adviser(s) as designated by the president.

SECTION 1. CHAIR’S TERM

The position of co-chair is a two-and-a-half year commitment: approximately six months as co-chair-elect (“co-chair in training”), one year as co-chair, and one year as past co-chair. The positions should be filled by two people. If two members do not volunteer to serve, the Council should vote on whether to proceed with a single chair. All efforts should be made to recruit two members for this role.

SECTION 2. ELECTIONS

The chair election shall take place by secret ballot at the first meeting in July consistent with the following procedure:

a. Prior to June 1, SAC members shall submit their nominations for the next co-chair(s) to the current co-chair(s). Nominations shall be limited to those SAC members in their first year of service. On or about June 1, the
co-chairs shall notify those individuals who have been nominated to serve as co-chair. Nominated individuals must accept their nominations within one week of receiving notice from the current co-chair(s) in order to be eligible for election as the next co-chair.

b. If more than two individuals or pairs accept their nominations, the co-chair(s) will establish a nomination committee. The committee must consist of at least the following: the co-chairs, the past co-chairs, the ex-officio advisers, and two second-term members of the Council. The two Council members will be selected jointly by the co-chairs, the past co-chairs, and the ex-officio advisors.

   o The nominating committee shall research, discuss, and rank the candidates.
   o The nominating committee shall submit the names of the final two candidates to the full Council.

c. The final two candidates shall make presentations to the full Council at the first meeting in July. The presentations shall consist of a short opening statement followed by a question and answer period. Immediately following their presentations, the full Council shall elect the new chair by secret ballot.

d. If only two individuals accept nominations, the co-chair(s) shall submit their names to the full Council without convening a nomination committee. Thereafter, the candidates shall make presentations to the full Council and (a) new co-chair(s) shall be elected in the same manner as described above.

e. If only one individual accepts his/her nomination, the co-chair(s) shall submit his/her name to the full Council without convening a nomination committee. The candidate shall make a presentation to the full Council in the same manner as described above. Thereafter, the full Council shall vote by secret ballot to determine whether the individual shall be named as the new chair. If only a single chair is named, the Council will vote on whether election procedures should repeat using the procedure outlined above for a second nominee, or whether a single chair will take full responsibility of the co-chair roles.

f. If no nominee accepts his/her nomination or if the full Council, pursuant to section (e) above, votes that further action is necessary, the procedures outlined above in sections (a) through (e) inclusive, shall be repeated.

Section 3. Resignation

a. Upon the resignation of a co-chair, the second co-chair will assume both co-chairs’ duties for the balance of the term.

b. Upon the resignation and/or vacancy of both co-chairs, the co-chairs will temporarily delegate this office to a
Council member and take nominations from the floor in preparation for an election to be held during the next regular meeting. The normal election procedure outlined in Section 1 above will be followed, with elections to be completed within one month of the resignations.

c. Upon concurrent resignation of both co-chairs, the Membership Selection Board will meet in special session to appoint an Acting Chair.

d. Upon the resignation of the past co-chairs, the position will remain vacant until the next set of elections, when the co-chairs will move into the role of past co-chairs.

SECTION 4. DUTIES OF THE CHAIR

a. The co-chairs shall preside at all meetings of the Staff Advisory Council, in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised, unless otherwise indicated or voted upon.

b. The co-chairs shall be voting members of the Council.

c. The co-chairs will be the spokesperson(s) for the Council in any official matters.

d. The co-chairs will be the official link with any other University committees or will make an appointment to represent the Staff Advisory Council on that committee or at the meeting.

e. The co-chairs will provide leadership to the full Council.

f. The co-chairs of the full Council shall be an ex-officio member of all subcommittees.

g. The co-chairs shall be responsible for the organization of periodic Presidential reports.

SECTION 5. DUTIES OF THE PAST CO-CHAIRS

a. The past co-chairs shall be responsible to provide guidance and advice to the co-chairs when requested.

b. The past co-chairs shall be voting members of the Council.

c. The past co-chairs shall be active members of the Council until new co-chairs have been appointed (usually by July 31), and will continue to provide advice as needed until the end of the calendar year. This includes serving on the New Member Selection Committee.
SECTION 7. RECORDING SECRETARY’S DUTIES

a. The Recording Secretary will be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Council, appointed by the co-chairs. The co-chairs will be responsible to recruit a candidate for this position. Appointee will serve a one-year, renewable term.

b. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for recording the minutes of all regular and special full Council meetings, circulating them to all members by email, and submitting them for approval at the next full Council meeting.

c. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for any other tasks or duties assigned by the co-chairs.

d. In the absence of the Recording Secretary, the co-chairs will appoint a member to be responsible for taking minutes.

Article VI: MEETINGS

SECTION 1. FREQUENCY

The full Council will meet twice monthly generally on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month; each meeting will be two hours in length. One or two additional meetings will be added to the schedule for the Council to meet with the President. Meetings will consist of SAC business and subcommittee reports, and then a guest(s) will present or topic will be discussed. Subcommittees will meet as necessary, apart from the general Council meetings.

SECTION 2. SPECIAL MEETINGS

The co-chairs shall be authorized to call special meetings. The purpose of the meeting will be stated in the call. Except in the case of an emergency, five business days notice shall be given to all members.

SECTION 3. ATTENDANCE

In the event that a member is unable to attend any regular meeting, he/she shall notify the co-chairs in advance of the meeting. Members may be removed from the Council in the event of two unexcused absences from Full Council. (See Article III, Section 6.)
VII: SUBCOMMITTEES Before the updated bylaws are made final, could we wait to see if any amendments to this bylaw come out of our next meeting?

SECTION 1. FORMATION
Subcommittees shall be formed by a majority vote of the Council. A motion may be brought forward at any meeting to form a subcommittee. The Membership Selection Board shall be a standing subcommittee.

SECTION 2. DISBANDMENT
Subcommittees may be disbanded by a majority vote of the Council. A member shall bring forth a motion for a subcommittee to disband.

SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP
Subcommittees shall be composed of at least three (3) members of the Council.

SECTION 4. OFFICERS
The basic officer of the subcommittee shall be the chair or co-chairs. The chair or co-chairs may appoint other officers at his/her discretion.

SECTION 5. ATTENDANCE
In the event a member is unable to attend any regular or special subcommittee meeting, they shall notify the chair or co-chairs of that subcommittee.

SECTION 6. ROLE OF SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIR or CO-CHAIRS

a. Submit reports to full Council.

b. Monitor attendance/participation of members - report to co-chairs, if necessary.
c. Plan and conduct subcommittee meetings.

d. Provide a debriefing to incoming co-chairs in order to assure continuity for the committee for the following year.

Article VIII: AMENDMENT OF THE BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Council by a majority vote (more than 50% of all votes cast by the members present). Suggested amendments must be distributed to full Council no later than three working days prior to the first meeting of the next month.

Revised: September 2014