1. What is the justification for this request?

As the Faculty Council evolved into the Faculty Senate, it embraced the concept of shared governance, providing membership for staff, the Associated Students of the University of Idaho (ASUI), and most recently, the Graduate and Professional Students Association (GPSA). At present, all discrete groups of the University community have the ability to vote on the Faculty Senate, with the exception of the SBA. While the Faculty Senate makes decisions that affect SBA members, that group has no say in these decisions. Examples of such decisions are those affecting the student email system, campus safety, parking, and technology in the classrooms. The SBA would like to be able to participate in this shared governance by having a vote on the Faculty Senate.

2. Why doesn’t the SBA partner with the GPSA for Faculty Senate representation?

The SBA and GPSA each represent students with different interests. The application processes for admission, grading systems, degree requirements, and funding arrangements for each group of students result in each group having its own unique agenda and concerns.

3. Is there any precedent for separate representation on the Faculty Senate for the SBA?

The University Budget and Finance Committee recognizes the SBA as a voting member, separate from the ASUI and the GPSA.

4. What is the feeling of the ASUI and the GPSA regarding separate voting membership for the SBA on the Faculty Senate?

Both the ASUI and the GPSA are very positively supportive of Faculty Senate voting membership for the SBA.