Some ways we could proceed with the proposed amendments to the constitution:

The Senators are not in agreement as to whether adjunct faculty should be able to serve as Senate President. There have been intelligent, eloquent, passionate arguments made on both sides of the issue, and it is clear that we will never reach a consensus. Below are a couple of ways we could decide to move forward.

Path A: We could vote on which option to send to the electorate FIRST. The electorate would receive the option we chose to send and would be able to vote yes or no. Along with that ballot, however, the electorate would also receive a copy of the other option with an explanation that, in the event the first option did not receive ⅔ of the vote, there would be another ballot later that would allow them to vote yes or no on the other option.

Path B: We could send both options to the electorate at the same time. They would be able to vote for option 1, option 2, or neither. In order to make a change, one of the options would have to receive ⅔ of the vote. In the event that did not happen, there would be no change to the constitution. It was brought up that we might be able to use a ranked voting system. See below for a description of how that might work.

Ranked Voting
In Proposal B above, the voters would have 3 choices: option 1, option 2, or option 3 (no change). With ranked voting, they would be able to vote for their first and second choice. To determine the results, we would start by looking at only the first choice of each voter.
- If one of the options received ⅔ of the vote, we'd be done.
- Otherwise, we would consider the two options that received the highest number of votes, and eliminate the other option from contention. We would then look at the second choice ONLY for the voters who chose the dismissed option as their number one choice. Those second choice votes would be added to the first choice votes. Then, if one of the options received ⅔ of the votes, that would be our winner.
- If after that, neither option 1 nor option 2 receives ⅔ of the vote, then no change in the constitution will occur.

Example of Ranked Voting:
First choice votes
Option 1: 21
Option 2: 15
Option 3: 14
Second choice votes of only those who chose Option 3 as their first choice:
Option 1: 13
Option 2: 1
Thus the votes would be:
Option 1: 21+13=34
Option 2: 15+1=16
In this example, Option 1 would have 68% of the vote and would pass.

Question: Would this type of voting would satisfy the need for 2/3 approval as specified in our Constitution?
Attempt at an answer: If a voter chose an option as a second choice, then they have demonstrated approval of that option. If they did not approve, they would not make a second choice. Or maybe they chose the second choice only to prevent their third choice from winning, in which case they really don't approve. Hmmm… I don't think I'm helping.
Question: Would we need to inform the electorate of how this system works if we chose to use it?