Factors to consider when prioritizing which positions to fill in a thaw

1. Is the position new or continuing?
2. How long has the position gone unfilled?
3. Should subsequent newly vacated positions have priority over those that have gone unfilled previously?
4. How many adjuncts teach in the department?
5. Does the unfilled position represent a significant subfield that is relevant at the undergraduate level and cannot be easily covered with existing faculty?
6. What is the department’s student/fulltime-faculty ratio?

The presumption is that all the positions under consideration have been judged as meritorious and the Executive Senate has recommended that they be filled. The positions have not been eliminated, but there remains the question of the order in which positions should be filled.

Under what circumstances should the Executive Senate ask that a reduction in force be declared? What would be the purpose of such a request?