



Amendment to the Senate Bylaws

Overview of Amendment

5.3.b ~~Action m~~Minutes of the proceedings of each committee meeting shall be kept ~~in~~ accordance with ~~Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees~~.

7.3.c Minutes: ~~Action m~~Minutes of the special committee's proceedings shall be kept ~~in~~ accordance with ~~Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees~~.

11.1.a The minutes shall include ~~only~~ actions and business transacted, **at a minimum. In cases of discrepancies between the minutes and Senate recordings, the recordings supersede the minutes.** They shall be submitted to the Senate for approval. Copies of the approved minutes shall be made available to all chief administrative officers of Colleges, Schools, departments, and other units, and to the campus news media.

Three modifications to the Bylaws will be presented as one amendment. The Senate will consider them as a group and take a single vote on all of them. Each of the individual modifications are included within the relevant articles of the Senate Bylaws in the following pages.

ARTICLE 5

COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

- 5.1 **Standing Committees - Specifications:** The specifications of each standing committee of the Senate shall state its name, its specific charge, and any exceptions or additions to the basic charge to standing committees stated in Article 5.2. The specifications shall list all voting ex officio members and shall define committee composition.
- 5.1.a Standing Committees: In an appropriate section of Article 6 there shall be specifications for each committee.
- 5.2 **Standing Committees - Basic Charge:** In its area of responsibility, as defined in its specifications, each committee shall be an arm of the Senate with the following powers:
- (1) To formulate and review policies to be established by the Senate according to the *Plan* (Article 1);
 - (2) To review established policies and their administration and to recommend any changes in policies or their administration that may be desirable;
 - (3) To serve in an advisory capacity, upon request, regarding the administration of policies;
 - (4) To function on request of the President or of the Executive Committee as a board of appeal with reference to actions and/or decisions made in the application of policies; and
 - (5) To recommend the creation of special subcommittees (Article 5.7-5.9) when deemed necessary.
- 5.3 **Standing Committees - Committee Operation:**
- 5.3.a Agenda Determination:
- (1) A committee shall have principal responsibility for identifying matters of present and potential concern to the campus community within its area of responsibility. Such matters should be placed on the agenda of the committee.
 - (2) Nonprocedural items shall be placed on the agenda of a committee by vote of that committee, by referral from the Executive Committee (Article 4.7), or by referral of policy recommendations. The committee shall determine the priorities of its agenda items.
 - (3) Committee agendas shall be made publicly available prior to each meeting.
- 5.3.b ~~Action m~~Minutes of the proceedings of each committee meeting shall be kept ~~in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees.~~
- 5.3.c Rules for Procedure of Standing Committees: The version of *Robert's Rules of Order* that shall govern the conduct of Standing Committees shall be *Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees, Newly Revised*. Standing Committees shall determine how advancing technology, such as phone and video conferencing and other electronic methods of participation, can be used for their purposes. Standing Committees may choose to conduct votes via email, and shall agree on any other mechanisms for conducting business outside of meetings, when necessary.
- 5.3.d Quorum Requirements of Standing Committees: Unless a quorum number is specified in the membership description of a committee, the quorum shall be a majority of voting members of the committee.
- 5.4 **Standing Committees - Reporting Responsibilities:** Each committee shall be responsible through its presiding officer for the timely delivery of the following reports.
- 5.4.a The Executive Secretary and Director shall receive an announcement of each meeting of the committee stating the time and place of the meeting with agenda items. It shall be sent as far in advance of the meeting as possible.

- 5.4.b The committee shall report its progress on agenda items as required by the Executive Secretary and Director or the Chair of the Senate.
- 5.4.c Reports providing information and/or recommendations to the Senate shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for inclusion on the Senate agenda. Reports resulting from the committee's advisory or board of appeals function shall be submitted to the appropriate Senate or campus officer, and the Executive Committee notified of the submission.
- 5.4.d Upon written request of at least four (4) members of a committee, the presiding officer of that committee shall include a minority statement with any committee report. Those requesting inclusion need not support the substance of the minority statement.
- 5.4.e An annual report shall be presented to the Chair of the Senate at the end of the academic year, or, if approved by the Chair, no later than August 16, for submission to the Executive Committee. The report shall include a list of all items placed on the committee's agenda, noting the disposition of each and a summary of the committee's deliberations. A cover sheet for each annual report, containing an outline of topics considered by the committee and their status, shall be made publicly available. In the case of committees with little activity, the committee may recommend inactive status the ensuing year until charged by the Executive Committee to address a specific matter:
 - (1) A committee may be placed on inactive status with approval of the Executive Committee. No presiding officer or members shall be appointed to the committee while on inactive status.
 - (2) A committee on inactive status may be reactivated by the Executive Committee when matters within its purview, as stipulated in Article 6, are brought to the Executive Committee for review. Following reactivation, the Office of the University Senate shall solicit volunteers for the committee in its annual volunteer period, and the Committee on Committees shall select members for the committee, in accordance with the provisions of 5.5 below.
 - (3) A Special Committee (Article 5.9) may not be appointed to consider matters within standing committee specifications in lieu of reactivating an inactive committee.

5.5 **Standing Committees - Selecting Members:** Persons shall be named to standing committees in accordance with the procedures listed below.

- 5.5.a The Office of the University Senate shall provide information on the charge and membership specifications of each committee.
- 5.5.b The Office of the University Senate shall solicit volunteers for the Senate's standing committees on an annual basis through an online process. During this volunteer period, all faculty, staff, and students shall be eligible to indicate their top three preferences for any committees with vacancies in their constituency and include a candidacy statement for consideration by the Committee on Committees. The Office of the University Senate will maintain these records for potential future use.
- 5.5.c The Committee on Committees shall develop slates of nominees to fill vacancies on the standing committees and University Councils. No person shall be nominated for a committee position without consenting to serve on that committee, either through indicated preference or explicit agreement. In making nominations, the Committee on Committees shall keep in view the continuing membership of the committee to ensure that the full membership complies with specifications of the *Plan* and these *Bylaws*. Committee members shall be nominated consistent with requirements for diversity specified in Section 8.1 of the *Plan*.
- 5.5.d Ex officio members named in a committee's specifications shall be voting members unless otherwise specified in the *Bylaws*. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Committees, the Executive Committee may appoint ex officio members with particular expertise or benefit to the committee. Such members shall serve with voice, but without vote. The Executive Committee is empowered to make such changes in non-voting ex officio membership as appropriate.
- 5.5.e The Committee on Committees shall forward a slate of nominees for committee service to the Executive Committee to place on the Senate agenda for approval. Each nominee shall be identified by name and constituency. The notice of nomination shall also include the name and constituency of continuing members

of the committee, and the name and office of the ex officio members, listed for information only. The nominations shall be subject to action by the Senate consistent with the *Plan* and the specifications of these *Bylaws*.

5.5.f Terms on standing committees shall be two (2) years for faculty and staff, and one (1) year for students. Appointments to two-year terms shall be staggered: that is, as far as practical, half of the terms from each faculty or staff constituency shall expire each year. Terms shall begin on July 1 of the appropriate year.

5.5.g A member of a standing committee whose term is expiring may be appointed to another term, subject to restrictions (1) and (2) below. The Committee on Committees is particularly charged to consider the reappointment of active student members.

(1) No reappointment shall be made that would cause the appointee to serve longer than four consecutive years on the same committee.

(2) At most, half of the non-student members of a committee whose terms are expiring in any given year may be reappointed.

5.5.h Terms as presiding officer of a committee shall be one year. A presiding officer may be reappointed if his/her tenure as a Senator is continuing; however, no one shall serve as presiding officer of a committee for longer than two (2) consecutive years.

5.5.i Appointments of the presiding officers of committees shall be made by the Chair of the Senate, designated on the annual committee slate, and shall be approved by the Senate.

5.6 **Standing Committees - Replacing Presiding Officers and Members:** The presiding officer and members of any active standing committee may be replaced for cause after inquiry by the Office of the University Senate with approval of the Executive Committee.

5.6.a Cause, for presiding officers, is defined as the following:

(1) Failure to activate the committee during the first semester after appointment in order to organize its business and determine an agenda; or

(2) Failure to activate the committee in order to respond to communications referred from the Executive Committee; or

(3) Failure to activate the committee in order to carry out specific charges required in Article 6 or other Senate documents.

5.6.b Cause, for members, is defined as the following:

(1) Continual absence from committee meetings and/or lack of participation in committee activities; or

(2) Lack of registration on campus for students or termination of employment on campus for faculty and staff.

5.6.c Procedure for replacing presiding officers and members:

(1) The decision to replace a presiding officer rests with the Executive Committee; and

(2) Requests for replacing a committee member shall be submitted by the presiding officer of a committee to the Executive Committee; such requests will contain a statement citing the appropriate "cause."

5.6.d When the Executive Committee decides to replace a presiding officer or committee member, it shall request the Committee on Committees to identify a suitable replacement.

5.7 **Standing Committees - Appointing Special Subcommittees:** A standing committee of the Senate may appoint special subcommittees to assist in the effective performance of its responsibilities. Persons appointed to special

subcommittees who are not members of standing committees must be approved by the Executive Committee. The Chair of any special subcommittee must be a member of the standing committee making the appointment.

- 5.8 **Standing Committees - Appointing Special Joint Subcommittees:** Two or more standing committees of the Senate may appoint special joint subcommittees to assist in the effective review of issues that pertain to the charge of multiple committees. Persons appointed to serve who are not members of associated standing committees must be approved by the Executive Committee. The Chair of any such subcommittee must be a member of one of the associated standing committees making the appointment. Special Joint Subcommittees will report directly to the full associated standing committees for final action.
- 5.9 **Special Committees:** A special committee of the Senate may be established by resolution of the Senate to carry out a specified task. The empowering resolution shall also stipulate the means of selecting the committee and any restrictions on its composition. The committee shall function until the completion of its tasks or until discharged by the Senate. A final report of its work shall be presented to the Senate. Members shall serve for the duration of the committee unless otherwise specified by the Senate.

ARTICLE 7

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY FINANCE

7.1 Membership and Selection:

- 7.1.a **Composition:** The special committee shall consist of a presiding officer appointed by the Senate Chair from among the tenured faculty; five (5) tenured or tenure-track faculty members; one (1) professional track faculty member; one (1) exempt staff member; one (1) non-exempt staff member; two (2) undergraduate students; one (1) graduate student; the immediate Past Chair of the Senate; the Associate Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer; the Associate Vice President for Finance and Personnel, Academic Affairs; and the following persons or a representative of each: the President, and the Vice President for Student Affairs. The Senior Vice President and Provost shall also appoint a representative chosen from among current and former unit-level budget officers or former department chairs. All members of the special committee shall be voting members.
- 7.1.b **Selection of Members:** The regular membership of the special committee shall be selected by the elected members of the Senate Executive Committee. Following the May 7, 2019, Transition Meeting, current Senators may nominate any member of the campus community. Nominees shall provide a statement indicating their interest in and qualifications for the special committee. Members of the Senate Executive Committee may not be nominated. Elected members of the Senate Executive Committee will vote by constituencies for members of the special committee. In the event of a tie, the Senate Chair will cast the deciding vote.
- 7.1.c **Membership—Vacancies:** After each Transition Meeting of the Senate, current Senators may nominate members of the campus community for any vacant seats. In the event of a vacancy during the academic year, members of the Senate Executive Committee from the respective constituency will select a replacement from the most recent list of nominees. If there are no interested nominees, a new nomination period will be opened and members of the Senate may submit nominations following the procedures in 7.1.b.
- 7.1.d **Membership—Terms:** Terms shall be three (3) years for faculty and staff, and one (1) year for students. Student members who wish to continue may be renewed up to two times. Terms shall begin on July 1, 2019.

7.2 Charge: The special committee shall exercise the following functions:

- 7.2.a Develop a deep understanding of the University's budget and budgeting processes and use that knowledge to educate the campus community on these practices.

- 7.2.b Consult with and advise the President, the Senior Vice President and Provost, and other University administrators on short- and long-term institutional priorities, particularly as they relate to the University's mission and Strategic Plan.
 - 7.2.c Advise Senate-related bodies—including committees, councils, and task forces—on the fiscal implications of any proposed recommendations under consideration.
 - 7.2.d Report to the Senate two times each year on the budgetary and fiscal condition of the University and the administration's response to any special committee recommendations.
 - 7.2.e Regularly report on its activities and the budgetary and fiscal condition of the University to the Senate Executive Committee.
- 7.3 Operations:
- 7.3.a Agenda Determination: The special committee shall have principal responsibility for identifying matters of present and potential concern to the campus community within its area of responsibility. The presiding officer shall place such matters on the agenda of the committee. Agendas shall be made publicly available prior to each meeting.
 - 7.3.b Meetings: The special committee shall meet as frequently as is needed to accomplish its charge, but at least monthly throughout the academic year. Additional meetings may be required over the summer months to accommodate the University's budgeting processes. Given the sensitive nature of the special committee's work, meetings will be closed to all but members and invited guests.
 - 7.3.c Minutes: ~~Action m~~Minutes of the special committee's proceedings shall be kept ~~in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees.~~
 - 7.3.d Procedure: The version of *Robert's Rules of Order* that shall govern the special committee shall be *Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees, Newly Revised*. The special committee shall determine how technology, such as phone and video conferencing and other electronic methods of participation, can be used for its purposes. The special committee may choose to conduct votes via email, and shall agree on any other mechanisms for conducting business outside of meetings, when necessary.
 - 7.3.e Quorum: Quorum shall be a majority of the members of the special committee.
 - 7.3.f Guests: The special committee may invite guests to participate in its meetings if it is deemed necessary.
- 7.4 Dissolution:
- 7.4.a The special committee shall be dissolved following the adjournment of the last regular Senate meeting of the 2021-2022 academic year, at which time the provisions in this article will become inoperative.

ARTICLE 11

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR

- 11.1 The Executive Secretary and Director of the Senate shall be responsible for the minutes and audio recordings of all Senate meetings.
 - 11.1.a The minutes shall include **only** actions and business transacted, **at a minimum. In cases of discrepancies between the minutes and Senate recordings, the recordings supersede the minutes.** They shall be submitted to the Senate for approval. Copies of the approved minutes shall be made available to all chief administrative officers of Colleges, Schools, departments, and other units, and to the campus news media.
 - 11.1.b A complete audio recording shall be made of each meeting and shall be maintained by the Office of the University Senate. In accordance with the University's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule, a copy

of each audio recording, excluding only those parts recorded during closed sessions, shall be placed with the minutes in the University Archives for open access.

- 11.2 The Executive Secretary and Director shall also maintain the following kinds of Senate records (see Article 4.8):
- (1) All material distributed to Senate members;
 - (2) All material received by or distributed to members of the Executive Committee;
 - (3) Any minutes of the Senate or the Executive Committee not otherwise included under (1) and (2);
 - (4) Annual reports of all committees of the Senate not otherwise included under (1) and (2);
 - (5) The audio records of Senate meetings;
 - (6) The current and all previous versions of the *Plan* and the *Bylaws*;
 - (7) Articles concerned with Senate structure and operation from campus and University publications as they come to the attention of the Executive Secretary and Director; and
 - (8) Other items deemed appropriate by the Executive Secretary and Director or the Chair of the Senate.
- 11.3 The Executive Secretary and Director shall store inactive records of the Senate in the University Archives.
- 11.4 The Executive Secretary and Director shall be responsible for the preparation of the Senate budget in accordance with Article 4.6.
- 11.5 The Executive Secretary and Director shall prepare as soon as possible after each annual senatorial election, a directory of the membership of the new Senate indicating for each member the constituency, term, office or department, and email address. A copy of this directory shall be available to all members of the new Senate.
- 11.6 The Executive Secretary and Director shall keep a list, with campus addresses and telephone numbers, of all Senate officers and of all presiding officers of all Senate committees. This information shall be available upon request to any member of the campus community.
- 11.7 The Executive Secretary and Director shall make available to each Senator, by campus mail or electronic means, a copy of the agenda and supporting material for each meeting. The receipt of the agenda and the supporting material then available shall satisfy the notice requirements of the meeting in question (Article 3.1 and 3.2.b).
- 11.8 The Executive Secretary and Director shall prepare for the members of the Senate and its Executive Committee, as appropriate, all agendas, minutes, reports, and other documents, with the exception of proposals relating to the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee. Nonetheless, the Executive Secretary and Director shall be responsible for the distribution of all items of Senate business, including PCC items to the members of the Senate and its Executive Committee, and to other such committees as necessary.
- 11.9 The Executive Secretary and Director shall inform the Executive Committee of the status of all members of the Senate in accordance with the *Plan* (Article 3.4.a(3-4), 3.4.b(3-4), and 3.7) and these *Bylaws* (Articles 2.2, 4.1, 5.5, and 5.6).
- 11.10 The Executive Secretary and Director shall have the privilege of attending the meetings of all standing committees and ad hoc committees of the Senate to assist in the coordination of Senate business.
- 11.11 The Executive Secretary and Director shall provide information or assistance as requested for revision of the undergraduate catalog.



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 - (1) No reappointment shall be made that would cause the appointee to serve longer than four consecutive years on the same committee.
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5.6 **Standing Committees - Replacing Presiding Officers and Members:** The presiding officer and members of any active standing committee may be replaced for cause after inquiry by the Office of the University Senate with approval of the Executive Committee.

5.6.a Cause, for presiding officers, is defined as the following:

- (1) Failure to activate the committee during the first semester after appointment in order to organize its business and determine an agenda; or
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- 7.2 Charge: The special committee shall exercise the following functions:
- 7.2.a Develop a deep understanding of the University's budget and budgeting processes and use that knowledge to educate the campus community on these practices.

- 7.2.b Consult with and advise the President, the Senior Vice President and Provost, and other University administrators on short- and long-term institutional priorities, particularly as they relate to the University's mission and Strategic Plan.
 - 7.2.c Advise Senate-related bodies—including committees, councils, and task forces—on the fiscal implications of any proposed recommendations under consideration.
 - 7.2.d Report to the Senate two times each year on the budgetary and fiscal condition of the University and the administration's response to any special committee recommendations.
 - 7.2.e Regularly report on its activities and the budgetary and fiscal condition of the University to the Senate Executive Committee.
- 7.3 Operations:
- 7.3.a Agenda Determination: The special committee shall have principal responsibility for identifying matters of present and potential concern to the campus community within its area of responsibility. The presiding officer shall place such matters on the agenda of the committee. Agendas shall be made publicly available prior to each meeting.
 - 7.3.b Meetings: The special committee shall meet as frequently as is needed to accomplish its charge, but at least monthly throughout the academic year. Additional meetings may be required over the summer months to accommodate the University's budgeting processes. Given the sensitive nature of the special committee's work, meetings will be closed to all but members and invited guests.
 - 7.3.c Minutes: ~~Action m~~Minutes of the special committee's proceedings shall be kept ~~in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees~~.
 - 7.3.d Procedure: The version of *Robert's Rules of Order* that shall govern the special committee shall be *Robert's Rules of Order for Small Committees, Newly Revised*. The special committee shall determine how technology, such as phone and video conferencing and other electronic methods of participation, can be used for its purposes. The special committee may choose to conduct votes via email, and shall agree on any other mechanisms for conducting business outside of meetings, when necessary.
 - 7.3.e Quorum: Quorum shall be a majority of the members of the special committee.
 - 7.3.f Guests: The special committee may invite guests to participate in its meetings if it is deemed necessary.
- 7.4 Dissolution:
- 7.4.a The special committee shall be dissolved following the adjournment of the last regular Senate meeting of the 2021-2022 academic year, at which time the provisions in this article will become inoperative.

ARTICLE 11

DUTIES OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND DIRECTOR

- 11.1 The Executive Secretary and Director of the Senate shall be responsible for the minutes and audio recordings of all Senate meetings.
 - 11.1.a The minutes shall include ~~only~~ actions and business transacted, **at a minimum**. They shall be submitted to the Senate for approval. Copies of the approved minutes shall be made available to all chief administrative officers of Colleges, Schools, departments, and other units, and to the campus news media.
 - 11.1.b A complete audio recording shall be made of each meeting and shall be maintained by the Office of the University Senate. In accordance with the University's Records Retention and Disposal Schedule, a copy

of each audio recording, excluding only those parts recorded during closed sessions, shall be placed with the minutes in the University Archives for open access.

- 11.2 The Executive Secretary and Director shall also maintain the following kinds of Senate records (see Article 4.8):
- (1) All material distributed to Senate members;
 - (2) All material received by or distributed to members of the Executive Committee;
 - (3) Any minutes of the Senate or the Executive Committee not otherwise included under (1) and (2);
 - (4) Annual reports of all committees of the Senate not otherwise included under (1) and (2);
 - (5) The audio records of Senate meetings;
 - (6) The current and all previous versions of the *Plan* and the *Bylaws*;
 - (7) Articles concerned with Senate structure and operation from campus and University publications as they come to the attention of the Executive Secretary and Director; and
 - (8) Other items deemed appropriate by the Executive Secretary and Director or the Chair of the Senate.
- 11.3 The Executive Secretary and Director shall store inactive records of the Senate in the University Archives.
- 11.4 The Executive Secretary and Director shall be responsible for the preparation of the Senate budget in accordance with Article 4.6.
- 11.5 The Executive Secretary and Director shall prepare as soon as possible after each annual senatorial election, a directory of the membership of the new Senate indicating for each member the constituency, term, office or department, and email address. A copy of this directory shall be available to all members of the new Senate.
- 11.6 The Executive Secretary and Director shall keep a list, with campus addresses and telephone numbers, of all Senate officers and of all presiding officers of all Senate committees. This information shall be available upon request to any member of the campus community.
- 11.7 The Executive Secretary and Director shall make available to each Senator, by campus mail or electronic means, a copy of the agenda and supporting material for each meeting. The receipt of the agenda and the supporting material then available shall satisfy the notice requirements of the meeting in question (Article 3.1 and 3.2.b).
- 11.8 The Executive Secretary and Director shall prepare for the members of the Senate and its Executive Committee, as appropriate, all agendas, minutes, reports, and other documents, with the exception of proposals relating to the Programs, Curricula, and Courses (PCC) Committee. Nonetheless, the Executive Secretary and Director shall be responsible for the distribution of all items of Senate business, including PCC items to the members of the Senate and its Executive Committee, and to other such committees as necessary.
- 11.9 The Executive Secretary and Director shall inform the Executive Committee of the status of all members of the Senate in accordance with the *Plan* (Article 3.4.a(3-4), 3.4.b(3-4), and 3.7) and these *Bylaws* (Articles 2.2, 4.1, 5.5, and 5.6).
- 11.10 The Executive Secretary and Director shall have the privilege of attending the meetings of all standing committees and ad hoc committees of the Senate to assist in the coordination of Senate business.
- 11.11 The Executive Secretary and Director shall provide information or assistance as requested for revision of the undergraduate catalog.