Constitution and Bylaws
of
The Faculty of
the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences
of
The University of Vermont

As Approved on November 18, 2008 and Amended on October 7, 2014

I. Organization

A. The Academic Units

The Academic Units of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences consist of the Department of Computer Science, the Department of Mathematics & Statistics, and the School of Engineering.

B. The Curricular Areas

The Curricular Areas of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences are curricular areas under the purview of the College that either (a) have their own UVM Catalogue alphabetic course category prefix, or (b) lead to an undergraduate or graduate degree or certificate in that area. Each curricular area is under the purview of either an Academic Unit or the College as a whole.

C. Parliamentary Authority

The most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order: Newly Revised shall be the parliamentary authority of this organization, except where inconsistent with these Bylaws.

II. Membership and Voting

A. The Ex Officio Faculty

The Ex Officio Faculty of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences shall consist of the President and the Provost of the University.
B. The Regular Faculty

The *Regular Faculty* of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences shall consist of all persons with a primary appointment in the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences who are recognized as full-time faculty as specified in Article 1 of the negotiated agreement between The University of Vermont and United Academics (AAUP/AFT). University Emeriti faculty and University administrators who also hold a faculty title and who, in either case, are serving the College on a full-time basis shall be considered Regular Faculty Members. In addition, administrators who also hold a faculty title with a primary appointment in the College and who are serving the University on a full-time basis shall be considered Regular Faculty Members. All members of the Regular Faculty have the privilege of vote.

III. Officers

A. The Presiding Officer

The Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences shall preside over College Meetings, and shall decide all questions that pertain to the execution of these Bylaws, in consultation with the Parliamentarian. In the event that the Dean cannot attend a meeting, he or she shall appoint a member of the Regular Faculty to preside.

B. The Secretary

1. The Secretary shall record and certify the minutes of all meetings of the Faculty. These minutes should state accurately all main motions --- except any that were withdrawn --- giving the wording of each motion that was adopted or otherwise disposed of, including any amendments, and identifying the individual(s) who make and second the motions and amendments. These minutes, when approved by the Faculty at their next meeting, shall be the official record of all actions taken by the Faculty.

2. The Secretary shall be elected from the Regular Faculty for a term of one year.

3. In the absence of the Secretary, the Faculty will elect someone to serve in their stead. If no faculty member
agrees to serve, the Dean shall appoint a faculty member to serve.

4. The Secretary shall be responsible for certifying votes by mail ballot as specified in Section IV.9, and for certifying votes to elect College Officers and at large members of the Faculty Council.

C. The Parliamentarian

1. The Parliamentarian shall advise the presiding officer and the Faculty on questions of parliamentary procedure or the execution of these Bylaws.

2. The Parliamentarian shall be elected from the Regular Faculty for a term of three years.

3. In the absence of the Parliamentarian, the Faculty will elect someone to serve in their stead. If no faculty member agrees to serve, the Dean shall appoint a faculty member to serve.

IV. College Faculty Meetings

1. The Faculty of the College shall meet at least two times during each semester.

2. Prior to the beginning of each semester, the Dean shall schedule the meeting dates and times and so notify the Faculty by an announcement mailed to each Regular Faculty member.

3. Except as provided for in subsection 7 below with regard to special meetings, the Dean shall furnish to the Faculty a written notice, an agenda, and the minutes of the previous meeting at least seven calendar days prior to the next meeting.

4. Any item presented by a member of the Faculty in writing to the Dean's office at least two weeks prior to a scheduled meeting shall be placed on the agenda of that meeting.

5. A quorum at regular meetings shall consist of thirty percent (30%) of the Regular Faculty.

6. The Dean may call special meetings. Special meetings shall also be called by the Dean upon written petition by ten (10) or more Regular Faculty members. Such meetings are to be held within ten (10) working days within the academic year of the
presentation of the petition. Notice of special meetings shall be distributed to the Faculty by the Dean's Office at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting time.

7. Upon the request of any member of the Regular Faculty present at the meeting, the vote on a given item must be by written ballot.

8. An item that is moved and seconded at a Faculty meeting may be voted on by mail ballot provided a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present and voting approve. The mail ballot must be completed within one week from the date of the meeting.

V. College Committees

A. General Provisions

1. The Standing Committees of the College are the Area Curriculum Committees (as defined in Section V.B.), the Academic Unit Curriculum Committees, the College Curriculum Committee, the Faculty Standards Committee, the Studies Committee, the Facilities Committee, and the Faculty Council.

2. All College Standing Committees, except the Area Curriculum Committees, the Academic Unit Curriculum Committees, and the Studies Committee shall consist of three members from the School of Engineering, two members from the Department of Mathematics & Statistics, and one member from the Department of Computer Science. Representatives from each of the three Academic Units shall be elected by the Regular Faculty in the Unit they represent by protocols in that Unit, as approved by their respective Regular Faculty members, subject to Sections V.C.2, V.F.2, and V.F.3.

3. Unless otherwise noted, members of Standing Committees are elected for a three-year term.

4. For all Standing Committees of the College except the Faculty Standards Committee, if a committee member is unable to attend a committee meeting, the committee member shall, whenever practicable, appoint a substitute from the area in which he or she was elected.

5. Standing Committees shall report to the Faculty at least once
each year.

6. A committee membership list will be updated annually by the Dean and will be distributed to Faculty at the beginning of the academic year.

7. Each College Standing Committee shall elect a chair and a secretary at its first meeting of the academic year.

8. The Dean may establish and specify the membership of ad hoc College committees to address determinate issues not under the explicit purview of a Standing Committee. On matters pertaining to Faculty responsibilities the Dean is encouraged to consult with the Faculty Council.

B. The Area Curriculum Committees

1. There shall be an Area Curriculum Committee for each Curricular Area defined in Section I. Each Area Curriculum Committee shall develop and maintain the courses and curriculum in its Curricular Area as well as those in support of the other academic units.

2. For each of the Area Curriculum Committees, the voting membership shall consist of all Regular Faculty members with teaching and/or advising responsibilities in the designated area. A Department Chair or the Director of the School of Engineering who is not already a member of an Area Curriculum Committee under the purview of his/her Academic Unit is an ex officio member, without privilege of vote, of that Area Curriculum Committee. In addition, any faculty member of the University may also be appointed by the Dean of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences to one or more Curricular Areas, with the advice and consent of the Regular Faculty within the affected Curricular Area; such members shall have the privilege of vote in each Area Curriculum Committee to which they have been appointed.

C. The Academic Unit Curriculum Committees

1. Each Academic Unit shall have an Academic Unit Curriculum Committee that shall conduct a continuing evaluation of the
curricula of the respective Academic Unit. Principally, it shall receive and study proposals from Curriculum Committees that are predominantly within its purview for new courses and curricula and modifications of existing courses and curricula. However, on its own accord, it may also initiate and develop proposals for new courses and curricula and for modifications of existing courses and curricula, and it may review existing courses and curricula. The Academic Unit Curriculum Committee shall seek input from other Academic Units as appropriate, and representatives from these Units shall be invited to participate without vote. In all cases, the Committee shall confer with the Area Curriculum Committees, the Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, and the Executive Committee of the Graduate College to coordinate curricula and avoid unnecessary duplication.

2. Membership in each Academic Unit Curriculum Committee shall be determined by protocols of that Unit, as approved by its Regular Faculty members in accordance with the University and University Officers’ Handbook.

D. The College Curriculum Committee

1. The College Curriculum Committee shall act upon curricular issues submitted to it by either Area or Academic Unit Curriculum Committees. The College Curriculum Committee is also empowered to develop and coordinate curricular initiatives that are not under the purview of a single Academic Unit, or that substantially affect more than one Academic Unit in the College, such as proposals for new interdisciplinary or cross-listed courses and curricula, and modifications of existing courses and curricula of this nature. In all cases, the Committee shall confer with the appropriate College curriculum committees, the Curricular Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate, and the Executive Committee of the Graduate College to coordinate curricula and avoid unnecessary duplication.

2. The representatives from each of the three Academic Units shall also be members of their respective Academic Unit Curriculum Committees.
E. Procedures for Approval of Curricular Changes

1. All proposed changes to a Curricular Area must be approved by its Area Curriculum Committee, and then forwarded to either the Academic Unit Curriculum Committee or the College Curriculum Committee that has purview over that Curricular Area, for further action, as specified following.

2. If an Academic Unit Committee or College Committee initiates a course proposal or change that substantially affects one or more Area Curricula, said proposal shall be referred back to the appropriate Area Curriculum Committees for consultation before action by the Academic Unit Curriculum Committee may be taken.

3. Changes to curricula or programs that substantially affect curricula, resources or workloads in more than one Academic Unit must be evaluated by the College Curriculum Committee and presented to the Faculty at a College Faculty Meeting for a vote. Examples of such changes include, but are not limited to: changes to courses that are cross-listed across programs or curricula in two or more Academic Units, all new degree programs, and all new curricular areas.

4. All changes to curricula or programs must be presented to the College Faculty at a Faculty Meeting by either an Academic Unit Curriculum Committee or the College Curriculum Committee. Changes presented to the Faculty by the College Curriculum Committee shall be voted on by the Regular Faculty before subsequent action of the Dean. Changes presented to the Faculty by any Academic Unit Curriculum Committee do not require a vote before subsequent action by the Dean; however, as warranted by the discussion, the Presiding Officer or the Chair of the presenting Academic Unit Curriculum Committee, or the Chair of the College Curriculum Committee may call for either a motion to approve the changes or a motion to refer the changes to the College Curriculum Committee, before subsequent action by the Dean. Changes that are defeated as the result of a vote for approval at a College Faculty Meeting are referred to the College Curriculum Committee for appropriate further action.
F. The Faculty Standards Committee

1. The Committee shall be advisory to the Dean in matters concerning reappointment, tenure, promotion, and sabbatical leaves. The Committee shall present in writing its evaluation and recommendation to the Dean of the College.

2. If a Full Professor from an Academic Unit is available to serve, the position must be filled by a Full Professor. However, if no such individual is available, the position may be filled by a tenured Associate Professor.

3. Under no conditions may a Department Chairperson, Director of the School, Associate Dean or Dean serve on the Committee.

G. The Studies Committee

1. The Studies Committee shall conduct a continuing evaluation of academic standards and student performance. The responsibilities of the committee shall include recommending to the Faculty the standards of academic performance for students enrolled in programs of the College, reviewing the scholastic records of students in the College and taking appropriate action, and considering and taking appropriate action upon written requests for adjustments of established programs to meet individual student needs.

2. The Studies Committee shall consist of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, without privilege of vote, and one elected representative from the Regular Faculty of each undergraduate degree-granting Curricular Area, except that by mutual consent of the Regular Faculty in the affected curricular areas, one individual may represent more than one undergraduate degree-granting curricular area. The Studies Committee shall seek input from other departments or units as appropriate, and representatives from these units may be invited to participate without vote.

3. The Studies Committee shall meet following the completion of each semester and at other appropriate times during the semester.
H. The Facilities Committee

1. The Facilities Committee shall conduct studies and make recommendations regarding the acquisition, use and reallocation of facilities in the College, including space and equipment purchased with University funds.

2. In addition to the faculty specified in Section V.A.2, membership in the Facilities Committee shall include the Executive Assistant Dean, without privilege of vote. Regular Faculty who also hold administrative positions within the College are not eligible for election to the Facilities Committee.

I. The Faculty Council

1. The Faculty Council shall advise the Dean and represent the Faculty on matters of College business not under the responsibility of other College Committees that are brought to the Council by either the Dean or members of the faculty.

2. The Secretary of the Faculty Council shall prepare and distribute minutes of all Faculty Council meetings in a manner such that they are accessible to all College faculty members.

3. The Faculty Council shall regularly report to and receive input from the faculty during College Faculty Meetings.

VI. Elections

1. An election within a group consisting either of the College as a whole, or a Unit or Standing Committee thereof, of an individual to fill a position referred to in these Bylaws shall proceed in two steps. Written or electronic nominations of eligible members in the group shall be solicited from all Regular Faculty members in the group. Then election shall be by written or online confidential ballot by the Regular Faculty in the group. The winner is chosen by majority.

2. Elections to the Standing Committees shall be completed by the end of each academic year for terms beginning in the subsequent academic year.

3. In the event that an elected person is unable to serve to the completion of his or her term, the appropriate constituency
shall elect, at the earliest possible date, a successor to complete the unexpired term.

4. During the initial formation of a Standing Committee the Dean may vary the terms of office from two to four years in order to stagger appointments.

VII. Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty of the College of Engineering and Mathematical Sciences shall be presented at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Faculty, distributed to each Faculty member with the notice of the next regularly scheduled meeting, and presented for action at that second meeting of the Faculty. A two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present and voting shall be required for passage of any amendment.

Approved by College Faculty on November 18, 2008
Amended by College Faculty on October 7, 2014:

1. Decommission IT and Honors & Awards committees
2. Align composition of Faculty Council with other committees (3 SoE, 1 CS, 2 Math/Stat)
3. Provide for electronic nominations and elections