

# CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS, FACULTY SENATE

Last revised: October 2001. Approved by the Faculty Senate November 19, 2001. Approved by the Board of Trustees February 23, 2002. Amended May 1, 2006, and March 14, 2011.

Preamble. The administration and the Faculty Senate of the University of Vermont share responsibility for the effective management of the academic affairs of the University. Authority in matters related to the academic mission of the University is vested in the faculty by the Board of Trustees. This authority is exercised in the Faculty Senate by elected senators with voting privileges and by committees authorized to act on their behalf. Meetings of the Faculty Senate are presided over by a President and Vice-President and follow a town-meeting format at which all University faculty members have a voice. The activities of the Senate are overseen by an Executive Council.

1. Authority. Under the authority of the Board of Trustees the University of Vermont Faculty Senate is empowered:

1.1 To review and establish policy with respect to the following matters:

- a. Academic freedom, including rights and responsibilities.
- b. All curricular matters, including establishment, dissolution, and substantial changes of degree programs.
- c. Research and scholarship.
- d. Admissions standards and prerequisites.
- e. Requirements for regular certificates and degrees.
- f. Regulations regarding attendance, examinations, grading, scholastic standing, and honors.
- g. Teaching quality.
- h. Professional standards and criteria for positions accorded academic rank.
- i. Other academic matters referred to it by the Board of Trustees, the University Administration, the faculty of a school, college, department, Extension or the Libraries, or other members of the University community.

1.2 To review, to recommend, and to participate in the formulation of policy with regard to:

- a. Institutional priorities.
- b. The allocation and utilization of the University's human, fiscal, and physical resources.

c. Academic organization, including the establishment or elimination of colleges and departments and the reorganization of the general university and college academic structure.

d. Faculty appointment, promotion, tenure, dismissal, leaves, and economic benefits. The Senate shall also participate in decisions regarding the application of these established policies to individual faculty members.

e. Admission procedures and quotas.

f. Student financial aid.

g. The library, the academic computing center, the Center for Teaching and Learning, the instrumentation and model facility, media services, the university store, the museum, supporting services, etc., as they affect scholarly activities and research.

h. Administrative procedures and organizational structure.

i. The appointment and promotion of academic and policy-level administrative officers including all those at the budget management level whose functions are university wide.

j. The regulations concerning, and the awarding of, honorary degrees.

k. The distribution of unrestricted funds made available to the University for discretionary allocation in support of research or scholarly work.

1.3 To participate in the selection of the University President, Provost and vice presidents whenever those offices become vacant or are created.

1.4 To cooperate with and to coordinate its activities, especially with regard to the subjects referred to in 1.2 above, with student governing bodies and the Staff Council.

1.5 To consider all areas of student affairs and their effect on the educational process and academic achievement, and to make and review recommendations regarding them.

1.6 To provide the means by which any matters of interest to the faculty or pertaining to the University and its purposes may be discussed and acted upon.

1.7 To approve the Academic Calendar prepared by the Registrar.

1.8 To cooperate, in furtherance of the objectives stated in this section, with the faculty organizations of those public institutions of higher education in the State of Vermont which may be included under the authority of the Common Board of Trustees to be established, and to participate in such common organizations and bodies as may be established to voice the interests of the faculties of the aforesaid institutions and to cooperate in matters of common concern with such Board of Trustees.

## 2. Membership.

2.1 Eligible Faculty. University faculty members eligible for membership in the Faculty Senate (“eligible faculty”) are those holding a primary appointment as an Officer of Instruction, Officer of Research, Officer of Extension, or Officer of the Libraries at the rank

of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, or Lecturer, with a full-time equivalent of at least 0.10.

2.2 Faculty Senate Membership. The membership of the Faculty Senate shall consist of the Elected Senators, a President and a Vice-President (see 3. below), and the elected members of the Senate Standing Committees (see 7. below). The voting membership of the Faculty Senate shall consist of the Elected Senators, the Chairs of Standing Committees whether or not they are also Elected Senators, and, in the case of a tie vote, the Senate President.

### 2.3 Elected Senators.

2.31 Apportionment and Term. Each department or comparable budgetary unit of the University shall elect one senator from its eligible faculty to the Faculty Senate for a three- year term beginning on July 1; units with more than 25 full-time eligible faculty members shall elect two senators. Units may merge their members; the resulting merged group of faculty should be promptly reported to the Senate President and will be considered as a single unit for the purposes of apportionment and eligibility of elected senators. One senator shall be elected by and from the ranks of retired faculty. Senators shall be eligible for re-election, except that a member who has completed two consecutive three-year terms shall be ineligible for re-election to serve during the year that immediately follows the period of consecutive service.

2.32 Elections. Elections for senators shall be held no later than April of each year by each department having a senator whose term is due to expire on June 30, and shall be conducted by secret ballot distributed to all eligible faculty members whose primary appointment is in the department. At least one week shall be allowed for receipt of marked ballots. All eligible faculty members must be provided an opportunity to stand for election to the Faculty Senate as an Elected Senator. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately one-third of senators are elected each year. The Faculty Senate shall supervise the elections of Senate representatives; concerns regarding election irregularities must be communicated to the Senate President by May 1.

2.33 Vacancies. If an Elected Senator must vacate his or her seat, the vacancy shall be filled by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected. The term of a member under these circumstances shall commence immediately and shall be for the duration of the absence or the unexpired term of the regularly elected member. If an Elected Senator is granted leave for one year or less a replacement shall be elected by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected to take the absent Senator’s seat for the period of the leave.

2.34 Attendance. Elected Senators are expected to regard attendance at all meetings as a fundamental obligation to their colleagues and to the University. When conflicting professional duties, imperative personal affairs, or illness make attendance at a given meeting impossible, Elected Senators may send an alternate, who shall have the same voting privileges as the Elected Senator. Alternates should present themselves to the Secretary of the Senate prior to assuming the seat of the Elected Senator. If neither the Elected Senator nor his/her chosen alternate is present, the Elected Senator will be indicated as absent from the meeting. A senator indicated as absent from two regular or special meetings of the Faculty Senate in an academic year will be considered to have vacated his/her seat.

### 3. Officers of the Faculty Senate.

The officers of the Faculty Senate shall consist of the President, President-Elect, and Vice-President, elected from the ranks of all eligible faculty members. The Immediate Past President remains an officer of the Faculty Senate for one year following the completion of the term of president.

3.1 President. In addition to other duties prescribed in this constitution, s/he shall preside at meetings of the Faculty Senate; hire and supervise Senate office personnel, including an administrative assistant who shall serve as Secretary of the Senate; prepare annual budgets for the Senate, the Grievance Committee, and the Faculty Mentoring Program; serve as the Faculty's spokesperson and consultant with the administration, the Staff Council, the student body, the Board of Trustees, and the extra-university community on matters within the jurisdiction of the Senate. The Senate President is a voting ex officio member of all committees, with the exception of the Nominating Committee in 3.5 below. The Senate President is a member of the Faculty Senate without vote, except that the Senate President may vote to break a tie. The Senate President may not also serve concurrently as an Elected Senator.

3.11 President-Elect. S/he shall work closely with the President to become familiar with the responsibilities and workings of the office of President and shall assume any duties as the President may assign. In the event of a vacancy in the office of President-Elect, a special election shall be held to fill the vacancy.

3.12 Immediate Past-President. S/he shall provide counseling and advice to the Board and the Executive Committee in regard to past and ongoing activities and action of the Faculty Senate and shall serve for a period of one year.

3.2 Vice-President. The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President when the latter is prevented from doing so and is an ex officio member (nonvoting except when designated according to Section 7.122) of all committees with the exception of the Nominating Committee in 3.5 below. The Vice President is a member of the Faculty Senate without vote and may not also serve concurrently as an Elected Senator.

3.3 Succession. The most senior at-large member (as determined by length of service in his/her current term, and, in the case of a tie in length of service, by time in University service) of the Executive Council (Section 8.1) who is willing and able to serve shall

perform the duties of the Vice President when the latter is prevented from doing so, and shall assume the office of Vice President when that position is vacant.

3.4 Term. The Senate President and Vice-President shall each serve a two-year term starting on July 1 with the President serving as Immediate Past President on the Executive Council (see below) for one year following the completion of the term. The term of office for the President-Elect shall be one year coinciding with the last year of the term of President. The President-Elect shall succeed automatically to the office of President at the end of his/her term as President-Elect.

### 3.5 Election.

3.51. Nomination. Candidates for Senate President or Vice-President shall be nominated in either of the following ways:

- a. By majority vote of a Nominating Committee of seven members appointed for the purpose by the Executive Council. In selecting a Nominating Committee, every effort shall be made to insure the widest possible search among eligible faculty for qualified Nominating Committee members. The current President and Vice-President of the Senate may not serve on a Nominating Committee.
- b. By nomination from the floor of the Faculty Senate.

3.52. Election. Ballots with the names of nominees will be distributed to all eligible faculty members in April. At least a week shall be allowed for receipt of marked ballots. The candidate receiving the majority of votes will be elected. In the event that no candidate receives a majority of votes in the election, a run-off election will be held between the top two candidates.

3.53 Removal. Officers of the Senate can be removed from office for neglect of duties prescribed in the Constitution and Bylaws. Removal from office shall require two steps. First, written Charges of Neglect of Duties shall be made in the form of a Motion to Remove from Office as a warned agenda item at a meeting of the Faculty Senate. If approved by a 2/3 vote of the Faculty Senate present at the meeting, these charges shall be forwarded to the Parliamentarian who shall put the Charges of Neglect of Duties to a vote by referendum of the full faculty within 7 days. The Officer shall be removed from office if a majority of the referendum responses favor it, provided at least 35 percent of the eligible faculty members cast valid ballots in the referendum.

3.6 Parliamentarian. The Senate President may appoint a parliamentarian. The Parliamentarian shall normally be a full voting member of the Faculty Senate who, by virtue of experience and/or expertise and/or willingness, shall agree to advise the Senate on questions of parliamentary procedure during normal Senate business. When appropriate, a professional parliamentarian may also be retained.

## 4. Meetings.

4.1 Access. Meetings of the Faculty Senate shall ordinarily be open to the public. Any University faculty member will be recognized to make a presentation or to propose a

motion at an open meeting of the Faculty Senate, but only Elected Senators and the Senate President may vote on proposed motions. Persons other than University faculty may be recognized by the Senate President or by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate and accorded the privilege of making a presentation. The names and affiliation of such persons shall be made known to the faculty.

4.11 Closed Meetings. By a majority vote of the Senators present the Senate may declare the meeting closed to all except members of the Senate and those others specifically invited to be present.

4.2 Regular Meetings. The Faculty Senate shall meet at least four times each semester. Additional meetings may be called at any time by the Senate President. Additional meeting must be held on petition of ten percent of the members of the Faculty Senate or of five percent of the members of the eligible faculty.

4.3 Special Meetings. Special meetings of the Faculty Senate may be convened by the Senate President. The agenda of the meeting shall be prepared by the Senate President and must be made readily available to every eligible faculty member at least four working hours prior to the meeting.

4.4 Agenda.

4.41. Formulation. The Executive Council (see 8. below) will prepare the agenda of each Senate meeting from proposals submitted by faculty members, Faculty Senate committees, representatives of student governing bodies and administrative officials. Items presented in the form of a petition signed by ten percent of the members of the Faculty Senate or of five percent of the members of the eligible faculty must be included on the agenda.

4.42. Distribution. The agenda of each regular meeting must be made readily available to the members of the Senate and other eligible faculty members at least one week preceding the meeting.

4.5 Non-Agenda Items. Matters for which the one-week notice has not been provided may be considered, subject to the following quorum restrictions for motions.

4.6 Quorum. A quorum for motions for which previous notice has been given shall consist of a majority of the total number of currently elected senators. For motions without prior notice, a quorum shall consist of three-quarters of the total number of currently elected senators.

4.7 Approval of Resolutions. Resolutions will be considered to have been adopted by the Faculty Senate if a quorum is present and a majority of those voting approve the proposal. Any issue may go to referendum upon request of ten percent of the eligible faculty. Every eligible faculty member will be allowed at least one week to respond to the referendum. The resolution will be considered to have been adopted if a majority of the referendum responses favor it, provided at least 25 percent of the eligible faculty members cast valid ballots in the referendum.

4.8 Minutes. Minutes of Faculty Senate meetings shall be prepared and made publicly available in a timely fashion.

4.9 Recording of Votes. On the request of any member of the Senate, if supported by one-third of the Elected Senators present, a record of individual votes cast on any resolution shall be taken and made part of the meeting minutes.

4.10 Parliamentary Authority. The Faculty Senate shall be governed by the rules contained in Robert's Rules of Order, Latest Edition, and such other special rules as the faculty may adopt. In case of any inconsistencies or differences, the Constitution and those special rules adopted by the Faculty Senate shall take precedence.

## 5. Disposition of Faculty Senate Legislation.

5.1 Transmittal to President. The Senate President shall promptly transmit copies of Faculty Senate actions to the University President.

### 5.2 Action by the University President.

a. Approval. The University President may indicate his/her approval of the legislation and his/her intention to implement it in either of two ways: (1) by noting his/her approval on the copy and returning it to the Senate President within one month of receipt, or (2) by not disapproving of the faculty action within the one-month period.

b. Disapproval. The University President may disapprove of the legislation by noting his/her disapproval on the copy and returning it to the Senate President within one month of receipt, together with reasons provided for his/her decision that may be presented to the Faculty Senate at its next meeting.

c. Delay. If a more extended period is required for consideration of the legislation, the President will inform the Senate President of the reasons for the delay together with a precise date by which s/he intends to act on the resolution.

5.3 Appeal to the Board of Trustees. Appeal by the Senate of a presidential disapproval shall be made to the Board of Trustees, if two-thirds of the elected senators at a meeting or two-thirds of the eligible faculty members responding to a referendum indicate their desire to appeal.

## 6. Amendment of the Constitution and Bylaws.

6.1 Proposal of Amendments. Amendments may be proposed in one of the following ways:

a. By resolution at a Faculty Senate meeting and approval by two-thirds of those present and voting, provided a quorum is present.

b. By petition of ten percent of the members of the University faculty.

c. By recommendation of the Executive Council.

6.2 Adoption of Amendments. Amendments generated by any of these methods shall be the subject of a referendum. A referendum ballot will be made available to every eligible faculty member, who will be allowed at least two weeks to respond. The amendment will be adopted if at least two-thirds of the responses favor it.

## 7. Committees.

### 7.1 Standing Committees and Standing Subcommittees.

7.11 Purpose. Standing committees and subcommittees are established to focus on the major continuing areas of faculty concern, including education, faculty welfare, student affairs, scholarly activity and research, finances, and physical facilities. A standing committee may divide its duties among subcommittees that are directly responsible to the parent standing committee. Standing committees and subcommittees are authorized to act for and in the name of the Senate as specified in these Bylaws. Such actions shall be reported promptly to the Executive Council and to the Senate and will stand unless the Senate, upon receiving such a report, takes jurisdiction of the matter for further consideration.

### 7.12 Composition.

#### 7.121 Elected Members.

a. Number. Except as described below, standing committees and standing subcommittees shall be composed of at least one member from each of the major academic units (the Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Agriculture and Life Sciences, Education and Social Services, Engineering and Mathematics, and Medicine; the Schools of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, Business Administration, and Natural Resources; and the Officers of Extension, and of the Libraries. A unit with more than 200 full-time eligible faculty members may elect one additional member to each standing committee and standing subcommittee.

b. Eligibility. Any eligible faculty member may stand for election by his/her college or school to serve on a standing committee except as otherwise stated in these Bylaws.

c. Term. Members of the standing committees shall be elected for three years or as otherwise stated in these Bylaws, starting on July 1. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately one-third of the standing committee members shall be elected each year.

d. Election. The election of standing committee members shall be the responsibility of the individual college and school faculties. Elections shall be held no later than April of each year and shall be conducted by secret ballot distributed to all eligible faculty members of the college/school. An opportunity must be provided for all eligible faculty members to volunteer to run for election to Senate standing committees. The Faculty Senate shall supervise the elections of Senate Standing

Committees; concerns regarding election irregularities must be communicated to the Senate President by May 1.

e. Vacancies. If a standing committee member vacates his/her seat the vacancy shall be filled by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected. The term of a member under these circumstances shall commence immediately and shall normally be for the unexpired term of the regularly elected member. If a standing committee member is granted leave for one year or less a replacement shall be elected by a special election within the unit from which s/he was elected to take the absent standing committee member's seat for the period of the leave.

f. Attendance. A standing committee member absent from three committee meetings in a calendar year in the absence of mitigating circumstances will be considered to have vacated his/her seat.

g. Members of the Senate. A standing committee member may also serve as an Elected Senator. Standing committee members are members of the Senate without vote if not also an Elected Senator.

7.122 Ex Officio Members. The Senate President is a voting ex officio member of every Faculty Senate committee and subcommittee, with the exception of the Nominating Committee in 3.5, and may designate a member of the Executive Council to act on his/her behalf. The Faculty Senate Vice-President is a nonvoting ex officio member of every Faculty Senate committee and subcommittee except when serving as the Senate President's designee.

7.123 Student Members.

a. Standing committees may invite graduate and/or undergraduate students designated by student governing bodies on a one-year renewable basis to serve on the committee.

b. In addition to the faculty members elected as described above, the Student Affairs Committee and the Educational and Research Technologies Committee shall also include a graduate and undergraduate student member designated by student governing bodies, renewable yearly.

7.124. Standing committees may add nonvoting resource personnel on the basis of their position, interest, or expertise.

7.13 General Duties of Standing Committees.

a. They shall recommend policy and changes in policy in their areas of responsibility to the Faculty Senate. They may initiate action on matters clearly within their province and request that they be placed on the agenda of the Senate meeting by the Executive Council.

- b. They shall receive and consider policy proposals in their areas of responsibility from the Faculty Senate, the administration, student bodies, etc., and present their recommendations to the Faculty Senate for action.
- c. They shall consider budgetary implications for policies in their areas of responsibility and make appropriate recommendations to the Faculty Senate and the administration regarding University priorities.
- d. They shall annually review sections of the Officers' Handbook pertaining to their areas of concern and make recommendations for revision.
- e. They shall consult with and provide advice to the administration, student groups, etc., in their areas of responsibility when requested to do so. Policy proposals generated as a result of these consultations shall be presented to the Faculty Senate for consideration and action.
- f. They shall keep records of their activities and present reports at least once a year to the Faculty Senate.
- g. They shall maintain close liaison with appropriate committees and groups established by the individual academic units, the student governing bodies, the Staff Council, and other University constituencies.
- h. They shall meet frequently in order to promptly and responsively discharge their duties to the Senate, the faculty, and the University as a whole.

7.14 Committee Officers. The chair of each standing committee shall be elected by each committee from its elected membership for a one-year term. The chair of each committee shall appoint a secretary to keep minutes. Standing committee chairs or their designees shall serve as faculty representatives to the appropriate Board of Trustees committees (9.1). The duties of the chair shall be to report to the Senate at least once a year, schedule and conduct meetings, follow up on actions of the committee, serve as committee spokesperson with respect to the duties in 7.13(e), serve as voting members of the Faculty Senate, and serve on the Executive Council.

7.15 Specific Standing Committees. The standing committee charges detailed below shall not be construed to limit their activities and deliberations.

7.151 Curricular Affairs Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters related to undergraduate and graduate educational policy and long-range academic planning, including items referred to in Sections 1.1b, 1.13, 1.1f, 1.1g, 1.2a, and 1.2k. It shall review proposals to initiate, alter, or terminate programs from the Schools and Colleges. Actions taken by this committee and approved by the Faculty Senate will be sent to the Provost for action. It shall make recommendations for faculty members to serve on the joint Senate/Trustees Honorary Degree Committee. The Curricular Affairs Committee shall have double the numbers of members stipulated in 7.121a.

7.152 Professional Standards Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters related to faculty professional standards and welfare, including items referred to in Sections 1.1a, 1.1h, 1.1i, 1.2b, and 1.2d. The Professional Standards Committee is advisory to the Provost on confidential personnel matters related to faculty reappointment, promotion, and tenure, as well as on the awarding of sabbatical leaves.

No member of the Professional Standards Committee shall be serving concurrently on the standards committee of his/her college or other unit specified in Section 7.121a.

7.153 Student Affairs Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters relating to student affairs, their effect on the educational process, and the academic climate of the University, including items referred to in Sections 1.1d, 1.2e, 1.2f, 1.4, and 1.5. It shall recommend policy with respect to honors programs, remedial programs, athletics, discipline, health service, placement, housing, student activities, etc. It shall include among its duties in-depth and ongoing review of University admissions and financial aid policies, including their relation to projected enrollments. This committee shall establish policy in matters related to general admissions standards and prerequisites, as referred to in Section 1.1d, and shall review, recommend and participate in formulation of admissions procedures. The committee shall establish a continuing liaison with student government groups and with all appropriate administrative and academic offices.

7.154 Research, Scholarship, and Graduate Education Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters relating to research activities and scholarly work carried out at the University, including graduate education and items referred to in Sections 1.1c, 1.2b, 1.2g, and 1.2k. It shall review, recommend, and participate in the formulation of policy with respect to resources related to research, including physical facilities and allocation of space for research purposes, library resources and resources for graduate programs, and make recommendations to assure effective use of these resources. It shall serve as liaison between the Senate and the administration on such matters as, but not limited to: the broad role of the University in advancing knowledge through research and scholarship; external and internal support for encouraging research and scholarship, including graduate and undergraduate research; intellectual property, and technology transfer; ethical issues and issues affecting the academic environment as these arise in research or scholarly work. It shall consult frequently with other University and collegiate committees that are charged to initiate, maintain, and monitor institutional support programs for research, scholarship, and graduate education, as well as maintain close liaison with appropriate administrative offices in its areas of responsibility.

7.155 Financial and Physical Planning Committee. This committee shall have responsibility for matters relating to planning and use of the institution's physical resources and for matters related to the formulation of the University budget with the exception of items subject to collective bargaining, including items referred to in Sections 1.2a, 1.2b, 1.2g, 1.2h, and 1.2i. It shall assist in the formulation of the University budget so that this document reflects the instructional, intellectual, and service priorities of the institution. The committee shall assume responsibility for

informing the administration of educational priorities and needs and see that these are considered in all planning. It shall seek advice from the various academic units relative to planning for physical facilities, environmental resources, and the allocation of space, and make recommendations to assure effective and responsible use of resources. It shall maintain close liaison with all appropriate subcommittees of the Board of Trustees as well as all appropriate administrative offices and committees in its areas of responsibility.

7.156 Educational and Research Technologies Committee. This committee shall have the responsibility of matters related to the development and implementation of educational and research technologies at the University that guide acquisition of information literacy by students and faculty. It shall review and recommend policies and procedures relating to the planning, introduction, and use of campus-wide technologies, including computers, communications, electronic data handling, and instructional media. The committee shall assume responsibility for informing the administration of educational and research priorities and needs related to information literacy and see that these are considered in all planning. It shall maintain close liaison with the Curricular Affairs Committee, the Financial and Physical Planning Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, and the Research, Scholarship, and Graduate Education Committee. In addition to the membership stipulated in Section 7.121a and 7.123, each of these committees shall appoint one of their elected members to serve as a voting member on the Educational and Research Technologies Committee. The committee shall maintain close liaison with appropriate administrative offices in its areas of responsibility and with the Facilities and Technologies Committee of the Board of Trustees.

7.2 Subcommittees. Any standing committee may establish subcommittees to perform specialized functions within the overall responsibilities of the committee. A subcommittee is directly responsible to the standing committee that created it, to which it shall report. The formation, abolition, and membership of such subcommittees shall be determined by the entire standing committee. The chair of each standing committee shall assign, with the approval of the full committee, members of the committee to the various subcommittees. S/he may appoint other eligible faculty members to serve on subcommittees. The chair of each subcommittee must be a member of the standing committee. The chair of the parent standing committee shall be a voting ex officio member of all subcommittees. The standing committee chair shall have primary responsibility for coordinating the work of all subcommittees. Subcommittees may, with the approval of the standing committee chair, add nonvoting resource personnel on the basis of their position, interest, or expertise.

7.3 Ad Hoc Committees. Select committees may be created by the Senate, the Executive Council, or the Senate President for the purpose of studying specific problems and preparing proposals relating thereto. These committees will ordinarily be appointed by the Senate President, after consultation with the Executive Council, but may also be appointed by a majority vote of the Executive Council or of the Faculty Senate. They will terminate when their assignment is complete or within one year of the date of appointment, whichever is shortest. They may be reappointed. An ad hoc

committee is directly responsible to the entity appointing it, to which it shall report.

#### 7.3.1 Ad Hoc Grievance Committee for non-represented faculty. The Grievance

Committee shall consist of seven persons, all of whom shall be voting members. The Faculty Ombudsperson shall not be a member of the Committee, but may attend all meetings and hearings of the Committee unless excluded by Committee majority vote. Five members of the Committee shall be members of the faculty, appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council (“Executive Council”). Two Committee members shall be administrators with academic experience, appointed by the Provost. The Grievance Committee shall elect a chair from among members appointed by the Executive Council.

7.4 Joint Committees. The administration and the Faculty Senate may create committees for the purpose of studying issues for which joint responsibility is appropriate. The faculty members of a joint committee will be appointed both by the appropriate administrative officer and by the Senate President. The appointing administrative officer and the Senate President will share joint responsibility for the committee, to whom the committee shall report. Reports from joint committees shall be promptly communicated to the Executive Council and to the Senate.

### 8. Executive Council.

8.1 Membership. The Executive Council shall consist of the following voting members:

- a. The President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, and Vice President of the Faculty Senate.
- b. The chairs of the six standing committees.
- c. Four members-at-large elected in April by the Senate from among the Elected Senators. The members-at-large will serve two-year terms beginning on July 1. A member-at-large ceasing to be an Elected Senator shall be replaced. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately half of the members-at-large are elected each year, and no more than two of the members-at-large may be from the same School or College.

8.2 Duties. The Executive Council shall perform the following duties:

- a. It shall be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the authority granted to the Senate as outlined under Articles 1.1 through 1.6.
- b. It shall set the agenda for meetings of the Faculty Senate, and shall be responsible generally for administration of the Senate.
- c. It shall monitor the activities of Senate committees, establishing committee priorities where necessary to insure committee responsibilities are discharged in a timely fashion.

- d. It shall serve to receive requests from the administration, the faculty, student bodies, etc. and direct those requests to the appropriate Senate body to ensure prompt and effective resolution of matters within its jurisdiction.
- e. It shall consider budgetary implications for University policies and make appropriate recommendations to the Faculty Senate and the administration regarding University priorities.
- f. It shall arrange for presentations to the Faculty Senate as frequently as necessary, but at least annually, on the University financial situation.
- g. It shall maintain a close liaison to ensure appropriate communication between the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Union.
- h. It shall be responsible for periodic and regular review of the items in the Faculty Handbook within its areas of jurisdiction, making recommendations for revisions as necessary.

8.3 Ratification of Action. On all issues falling under its jurisdiction, the Executive Council shall initially decide whether the issue is substantive and requires the approval of the full Senate, or should only require approval of the Executive Council itself, with the Senate informed of its action. The Senate, upon receiving such a report, may by majority vote take jurisdiction of the matter for further consideration.

8.4 Officers. The President of the Faculty Senate shall serve as Chair of the Executive Council. In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall serve.

8.5 Meetings. The Executive Council shall meet prior to each scheduled Faculty Senate meeting and at least once a month throughout the calendar year, and must meet upon written petition of four of its members. At the discretion of the Senate President, the Executive Council may meet more frequently in order to discharge its duties promptly and responsively.

9. Faculty Representation on the Board of Trustees. In order to maintain a close liaison between the faculty and the Board of Trustees, the Faculty Senate provides nonvoting faculty representation to standing committees of the Board.

#### 9.1 Membership.

- a. Audit Committee: representative recommended by the Executive Council and appointed by the Senate President for a two-year term.
- b. Budget, Finance and Investment Committee: the chair of the Financial & Physical Planning Committee and one additional representative recommended by the Financial and Physical Planning Committee and appointed by the Senate President for a two-year term.
- c. Educational Policy and Institutional Resources Committee: the Senate Vice President, the Chair of the Curricular Affairs Committee, and the Chair of the

Research, Scholarship & Graduate Education Committee.

d. Executive Committee: Senate President.

e. Socially Responsible Investing Workgroup: two representatives recommended by the Executive Council and appointed by the Senate President for two-year terms.

f. Honorary Degree Working Group: the Senate Vice President and one additional representative recommended by the Executive Council and appointed by the Senate President for two-year terms.

## 9.2 Duties.

a. The representative or his/her designated replacement will attend each meeting of the appropriate Board of Trustees committee.

b. S/he will communicate regularly with the Senate Executive Council and report to the Senate as necessary.