

# University of Arizona Faculty Senate: Constitution & Bylaws Items

March 1, 2021

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**(1) Bylaws Change – Include the Vice President for Research as a member of Senate.**

*Rationale:* There has been an interest in ensuring better ongoing communication between Research, Innovation, and Impact and the Faculty Senate. Formally including the Vice President as a member of Senate would ensure they are present and can answer questions and participate in discussions. They could also be asked to participate in providing monthly reports, as do the Provost and President. In order to retain the same number of administrative representatives to Senate, we suggest removing the at large vice presidential representative if we add this one.

## **ARTICLE VIII. The Faculty Senate**

### **Section 2. Membership**

a. Ex officio voting members: The President of the University, the Provost, **the Vice President for Research** the Chair of the Faculty, the Vice Chair of the Faculty, the Secretary of the Faculty, the chair of the Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee, the chair of the Undergraduate Council, the chair of the Graduate Council, and the chair of the Committee of Eleven (when the chair is not an elected member of Faculty Senate) shall be voting members of the Faculty Senate. In addition, ~~one member shall represent the Vice Presidents, and~~ one member shall represent the Deans.

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**(2) Bylaws Change – Provide flexibility for adding non-voting, ex officio representatives from administration to Senate Standing Committees**

*Rationale:* It has been the practice for the last decade to include the Dean of Students on the Student Affairs Policy Committee and the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs has often served on the Academic Personnel Policy Committee. Having this representation has been valuable and improved the work of these committees. Providing this explicit language will give the Vice Chair of the Faculty the flexibility to include administrators on Senate standing committees, as needed.

## **Article VIII. Faculty Senate**

### **Section 4. Faculty Senate Standing Committees**

Each Faculty Senate standing committee, except the Executive Committee, shall consist of seven General Faculty members, a majority of whom must be elected Faculty who are members of Senate. The standing committee members shall be appointed by the Vice Chair of the Faculty, after consultation with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, from names suggested by the Nominating Committee or other members of the General Faculty. Student members of standing committees shall be nominated by the Associated Students of the University of Arizona and by the Graduate and Professional Student. [As appropriate, representation from administration \(such as the Dean of Students, the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, etc.\) may be included as ex officio members \(non-voting\).](#) Members of standing committees shall serve one-year terms.

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**(3) Bylaws Change – Provide flexibility for adding a postdoctoral scholar to Senate Standing Committees (other than Senate Executive Committee)**

*Rationale:* For the past 3-4 years, we have piloted including a postdoctoral scholar on each of the Senate standing committees. This has been well received by the committee chairs and membership. We are suggesting we give the Vice Chair the option to appoint a postdoctoral scholar to these committees.

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**(4) Bylaws Change – Include the CIO or their designee as an ex officio, non-voting member of the Senate Executive Committee.**

*Rationale:* We have piloted having representation from UITS on the Senate Executive Committee for a number of years and found it useful. We are suggesting we make this representation official in the Bylaws.

## **Article VIII. Faculty Senate**

### **Section 4. Faculty Senate Standing Committees**

#### **a. Executive Committee**

The committee membership shall consist of the Chair of the Faculty, the Vice Chair of the Faculty, the Secretary of the Faculty, chairs of the Faculty Senate standing committees, chair of the Committee of Eleven, chair of the Strategic Planning and Budget Advisory Committee (SPBAC), chair of the Undergraduate Council (UGC), chair of the Graduate Council (GC), ~~one member of the Appointed Professionals Advisory Council (APAC)~~ **two members of the UArizona Staff Council** shall be appointed annually by the Chair of APAC, two members of the Senate elected at the regular May meeting of the Faculty Senate in alternate years from nominees whose names were submitted to the Faculty Center in time for distribution with the agenda for that meeting, the President of the University or their designee (non-voting), the Provost or their designee, (non-voting), **the Chief Information officer or their designee (non-voting)**, the President of ASUA or their designee, the President of GPSC or their designee, and the Parliamentarian who shall be non-voting. The committee shall establish the agenda for each meeting of the Faculty Senate and shall receive reports from the officers, the chairs of the Senate standing committees, UGC, GC and SPBAC. The Vice Chair of the Faculty shall serve as chair of the committee.

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#### **(5) VOTE on HOUSEKEEPING CHANGE**

**Bylaws – Remove references to SAC and APAC and replace with UArizona Staff Council but retain the same number of representatives from both SAC and APAC.**

*Rationale:* SAC and APAC no longer exist and have been replaced by the UArizona Staff Council. We are recommending we remove SAC and APAC where they are mentioned in the Bylaws, but keep the same level of representation (i.e., two members if both were represented on a shared governance body).

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#### **(6) VOTE on HOUSEKEEPING CHANGE**

**Bylaws – Remove reference to "Point of View" Informal Mediation as a service that is offered by HR as an option in the grievance process.**

*Rationale:* The "Point of View" informal mediation service is no longer formally offered by Human

Resources. Human Resources can aid grievants in identifying point of view mediation support on campus, but the service no longer exists. The Bylaws will be amended to clarify this.

**ARTICLE VII. Grievance Policies and Procedures for Faculty**  
**Section 4. Informal Resolution Procedures.**

“Point of View” - ~~The University’s Informal Mediation Program. The Point of View Informal Mediation, sponsored by Human Resources, provides neutral trained mediators from the University community.~~ Human Resources can provide and/or assist with securing access to neutral trained mediators. Those who elect to use this process are provided an opportunity to share their uninterrupted point of view. The mediator does not decide who is right or wrong; instead, the mediator helps people understand the conflict and brainstorm options to solve it.

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**(7) Bylaws Change - Include ex officio voting members from Senate on both the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils**

*Rationale:* This addition is being suggested to ensure adequate representation to and from Senate in the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils' work. Currently, the only representation is through the Chairs of the Committees.

**Article VI. University-wide Committees with Shared Governance Participation**  
**Sections 4 & 5**

Two ex officio voting members from Faculty Senate, appointed by the Vice Chair of the Faculty in consultation with the Chair. Terms are for one year but are renewable.

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**(8) Bylaws Change – Require that the Committee on Elections post vote totals following all General Faculty elections.**

*Rationale:* We currently provide vote totals only when individuals request them directly from the Committee on Elections. There is an interest among many faculty in simply posting the vote totals along with the results for all to see.

**Article IV. Committee on Elections and Elections Procedures**  
**Section 2. Conduct of Elections**

f. The committee shall notify the General Faculty of the results of the runoff election no later than April 25. Results for all General Faculty elections will include a list of any individuals elected and

policies adopted, [vote counts](#), ~~as well as an~~ and the overall participation rate for the election.  
~~Requests for vote counts in individual races may be made to the Committee on Elections.~~

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**(9) VOTE on HOUSEKEEPING CHANGE**

**Bylaws - Reformat wording on Undergraduate Council to mirror format of Graduate Council**

*Rationale:* The current formatting on the section on the membership of the Graduate Council reads more easily than that of the Undergraduate Council. We recommend we reformat the section on the Undergraduate Council in a similar manner.

**Article VI. University-wide Committees with Shared Governance Participation**

**Section 4**

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**(10) VOTE on HOUSEKEEPING CHANGE**

**Constitution - Remove references to the College Academic Administrators Council, or CAC, in the Constitution**

*Rationale:* The College Academic Administrators Council, or CAC, no longer exists and has been split into two groups to more effectively deal with curricular matters. We recommend removing it from the Constitution. Because the two groups that have since been formed out of CAC are not shared governance bodies, we do not see a need to include them in the Constitution.

**Article VII. University-wide Committees with Shared Governance Participation**

**Sections 4 & 6**

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