Received: 12/13/2018
Requested by: Senate, Faculty Officers

Rationale: The Constitution specifies that Faculty Senate meetings occur on “the first working Monday” of each month during the Academic Year, unless the meeting schedule is changed by vote of the Senate. Working Mondays sometimes fall on major religious holidays (i.e. Rosh Hashanah) that are observed by Senators, preventing some Senators from participating in those meetings.

Proposed changes:

Constitution
Article VI.
Section 4. Meetings (modify text as noted below. New text in red, deleted text in overstrike)

The Faculty Senate shall meet regularly the first working Monday in each month during the academic year, except on religious holidays observed by members of the Senate. When the first working Monday of the month falls on a religious holiday observed by one or more Senators, such that observance of the holiday would prevent those Senators from participating in Senate, Senate meetings shall be moved to the second working Monday in the month. Other changes to the calendar can be made, as voted upon and approved by the Faculty Senate. Its meetings shall be open to the public, except when the body decides to meet in executive session. Additional meetings may be called by the President of the University or the Chair of the Faculty. The agenda of each meeting shall be set by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

By-Laws
Article VIII.
Section 6. Declaration of Observance of Religious Holidays (new section)

Any Senator for whom observance of a religious holiday would prevent them from participating in a Senate Meeting on the first working Monday of the month during the Academic Year shall notify Faculty Leadership at the beginning of that Academic Year so that the relevant meeting can be rescheduled in accordance with the Constitution, Article VII Section 4.