



Proposed Amendments to the Faculty Senate Bylaws

The following are the Faculty Senate 2019-20 Restructuring Committee's proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

1. **Article I: Elections and appointments, Sec. 1** – to allow for electronic voting method.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 1. All elections of Senate members (except for retired faculty), Senate officers and Senate council members shall be conducted by the Senate Executive Board by secret, written ballot. The Board shall count the votes, resolve tie votes by lot and certify the names of those elected. If an election is held to replace a Senate council member and there is only one nominee, the Senate may declare the single nominee elected by acclamation, rather than hold a vote by secret, written ballot.</p>	<p>Sec. 1. All elections of Senate members (except for retired faculty), Senate officers and Senate council members shall be conducted <u>through a secured electronic method as reviewed and approved annually by</u> the Senate Executive Board by secret, written ballot. The Board shall count the votes, resolve tie votes by lot, and certify the names of those elected. If an election is held to replace a <u>Senate officer or</u> Senate council member and there is only one nominee, the Senate may declare the single nominee elected by acclamation. rather than hold a vote by secret, written ballot.</p>

2. **Article I: Elections and appointments, Sec. 2** – implementation of a new section to define the dates of a one-year term.

[NOTE: acceptance of this amendment includes subsequent re-numbering of the sections that follow within Article I.]

Current	Proposed
	<p>Sec. 2. <u>A one-year term of service in the Faculty Senate is defined as beginning on 1 May and ending on 30 April.</u></p>



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3. **Article I: Elections and appointments, Sec. 5** – to allow for electronic and preference voting methods and clarification of voter.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 5. Departmental representatives shall be elected in the preliminary departmental election conducted by the Senate Executive Board and completed no later than twelve days before the general election date. Approximately one-third of the departmental representatives shall be elected annually. The Board shall distribute to voters, by departments, ballots on which shall appear the number of representatives to be elected by the voter's department in accordance with Article IV, Sec. 3, of the constitution. The voter shall vote for as many qualified members of his/her department as there are representatives to be elected by his/her department. Any candidate who receives a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If the voters do not elect as many candidates as there are positions to be filled, the Board shall prepare for that department a second ballot, containing the names of twice as many candidates as there are offices yet to be filled, and listing those candidates not already elected who received the highest number of votes in the preliminary departmental election. On this second ballot, which shall be distributed at the time of the general election, the names shall be listed in alphabetical order. The winner or winners shall be determined by the highest number of votes received, not necessarily a majority.</p>	<p>Sec. 5. Departmental representatives shall be elected in the preliminary departmental election conducted by the Senate Executive Board and completed no later than twelve days before the general election date. Approximately one-third of the departmental representatives shall be elected annually. The Board shall distribute to voters, by departments, ballots on which <u>Election of departmental representatives shall be conducted through a secured electronic method as reviewed and approved annually by the Senate Executive Board. On the electronic ballot</u> shall appear the number of representatives to be elected by the voter's department in accordance with Article IV, Sec. 3, of the constitution. The voter <u>Each faculty member</u> shall vote for as many qualified members of his/her department as there are representatives to be elected by his/her department. Any candidate who receives a majority of the votes cast shall be declared elected. If the voters do not elect as many candidates as there are positions to be filled, the Board shall prepare for that department a second ballot, containing the names of twice as many candidates as there are offices yet to be filled, and listing those candidates not already elected who received the highest number of votes in the preliminary departmental election. On this second ballot, which shall be distributed at the time of the general election, the names shall be listed in alphabetical order. <u>Preferential voting, a method of voting allowing voters to rank multiple candidates in order of preference, as described in the American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedures, will be used for election of departmental representatives. The department faculty member's vote will count only once, if he/she ranks one candidate as first, second, and third it is the same as if he/she left the second and third choices blank. A candidate's chances of winning are not improved by selecting the candidate at more than one ranking on a ballot. The candidate with the majority of votes cast is elected. Ties will be resolved by lot as described in Article I. Sec. 1 of the bylaws.</u> The winner or winners shall be determined by the highest number of votes received, not necessarily a majority.</p>



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4. **Article III: Election of officers, Sec. 1** – reduction of the number of signatures necessary for nomination.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 1. During its February meeting, the Senate shall select nominees for president and vice president. Two candidates who have submitted petitions containing the signatures of ten members, of the present or two immediate past Senates shall be selected for each position. These petitions must be submitted no later than seven days before the February Senate meeting. In the event that fewer than two petitions are received for either office, candidates may be nominated, with the consent of the candidates, from the floor of the Senate during its February meeting. If there are more than two candidates for either position, the two receiving the highest number of votes by secret ballot shall be the nominees for president. After the nominees for president have been selected, nominees for vice president shall be chosen from the remaining candidates for president who are willing to run and from the candidate(s) who submitted petitions for vice president. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes by secret ballot shall be the nominees for vice president</p>	<p>Sec. 1. During its February meeting, the Senate shall select nominees for president and vice president. Two candidates who have submitted petitions containing the signatures of ten five members from at least three colleges, of the present or two immediate past Senates shall be selected for each position. These petitions must be submitted no later than seven days before the February Senate meeting. In the event that fewer than two petitions are received for either office, candidates may be nominated, with the consent of the candidates, from the floor of the Senate during its February meeting. If there are more than two candidates for either position, the two receiving the highest number of votes by secret ballot shall be the nominees for president. After the nominees for president have been selected, nominees for vice president shall be chosen from the remaining candidates for president who are willing to run and from the candidate(s) who submitted petitions for vice president. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes by secret ballot shall be the nominees for vice president</p>



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5. Article V: Special sessions, Sec. 1 – removal of mandatory written notice.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 1. A special session of the Senate may be called by the Executive Board, provided the Board sends to each member of the Senate a written notice of the meeting, together with the agenda for that meeting at least forty-eight hours before the scheduled time of the special session. The agenda of a special session shall not be subject to review or modification at the session.	Sec. 1. A special session of the Senate may be called by the Executive Board, provided the Board sends to each member of the Senate a <u>written</u> notice of the meeting, together with the agenda for that meeting at least forty-eight hours before the scheduled time of the special session. The agenda of a special session shall not be subject to review or modification at the session.

6. Article V: Special sessions, Sec. 2 – removal of mandatory old Senate and new Senate meetings as a special sessions.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 2. The last meeting of the old Senate and the first meeting of the new Senate, usually held in May, shall function as special sessions.	Sec. 2. The last meeting of the old Senate and the first meeting of the new Senate, usually held in May, shall function as special sessions.



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7. Article VI: Councils, Sec. 1 – elimination of the Extended University Programs Council.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 1. The councils shall be composed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Extended University Programs Council shall be composed of at least 18 members, including the associate provost for Extended University Programs, two administrators from EUP appointed by the associate provost, 12 faculty members elected by the Senate (three from Arts and Sciences—with representation from each division recommended, one from each of the other colleges, one from unaffiliated units, and two at large), the Faculty Senate president or executive board designee as an ex officio member, one undergraduate student selected by the Western Student Association and one graduate student selected by the Graduate Student Association. 	<p>Sec. 1. The councils shall be composed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Extended University Programs Council shall be composed of at least 18 members, including the associate provost for Extended University Programs, two administrators from EUP appointed by the associate provost, 12 faculty members elected by the Senate (three from Arts and Sciences—with representation from each division recommended, one from each of the other colleges, one from unaffiliated units, and two at large), the Faculty Senate president or executive board designee as an ex officio member, one undergraduate student selected by the Western Student Association and one graduate student selected by the Graduate Student Association.

8. Article VI: Councils, Sec. 1 – change of the Research Policies Council membership.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 1. The councils shall be composed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Research Policies Council shall be composed of at least 19 members including the vice president for research, the dean of the Graduate College, the provost, the vice president for business and finance, 11 faculty members elected by the Senate (three from Arts and Sciences – with representation from each division recommended, one from each of the other colleges, one from unaffiliated units, and one at large), the Faculty Senate president or executive board designee as an ex officio member, the chair of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award Research Screening Committee as an ex officio member, and two graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Association. 	<p>Sec. 1. The councils shall be composed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Research Policies Council shall be composed of at least 19 18 members including the vice president for research, the dean of the Graduate College, the provost, the vice president for business and finance, 11 faculty members elected by the Senate (three from Arts and Sciences – with representation from each division recommended, one from each of the other colleges, one from unaffiliated units, and one at large), the Faculty Senate president or executive board designee as an ex officio member, the chair of the Faculty Research and Creative Activities Award Research Screening Committee as an ex officio member, and two graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Association.



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9. **Article VI: Councils, Sec. 1** – to require election of council secretary.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 1. Each council shall elect from its membership a chairperson, vice chairperson, yearly.	Sec. 1. Each council shall elect from its membership a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary yearly annually.

10. **Article VI: Councils, Sec. 2** – change the election of council members so that terms may begin as of May 1 each year, as defined in Sec. 5 below.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 2. In electing members of the councils, in accordance with Article VIII, Sec. 5 and 6, of the constitution, the Senate shall proceed in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These nominations shall be submitted to the Senate at the May meeting at which the newly constituted Senate is convened, and at the same session the Senate shall elect the members of respective councils by majority of the votes cast for each position. 	<p>Sec. 2. In electing members of the councils, in accordance with Article VIII, Sec. 5 and 6, of the constitution, the Senate shall proceed in the following manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These nominations shall be submitted to the Senate at the April May meeting at which the newly constituted Senate is convened, and at the same session the Senate shall elect the members of respective councils by majority of the votes cast for each position.



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11. Article VI: Councils, Sec. 3 – to expand those eligible to notify the Executive Board of a vacancy.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 3. The chairperson of each council shall notify the Senate Executive Board of any vacancy which occurs among the elected faculty members on the council. The Board shall verify the vacancy and, at the next Faculty Senate meeting subsequent to declaration of the vacancy by the Board, the Senate shall elect one from a slate submitted by the Board. A council member so elected shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.</p>	<p>Sec. 3. The chairperson of each council <u>or the Faculty Senate staff</u> shall notify the Senate Executive Board of any vacancy which occurs among the elected faculty members on the council. The Board shall verify the vacancy and, at the next Faculty Senate meeting subsequent to declaration of the vacancy by the Board, the Senate shall elect one from a slate submitted by the Board. A council member so elected shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.</p>

12. Article VI: Councils, Sec. 5 – set dates for term of office.

Current	Proposed
<p>Sec. 5. All newly elected council members shall take office at the first meeting of their respective council following the date of their election.</p>	<p>Sec. 5. All newly elected council members shall take office <u>as of 1 May and serve through 30 April for the duration of the term</u> at the first meeting of their respective council following the date of their election.</p>



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13. Article VI: Councils, Sec. 10 – clarification of members of committees to propose motions.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 10. All members of councils and of standing committees of councils shall have the right to propose motions and vote, in their respective councils and committees.	Sec. 10. All voting members of councils and of standing committees of councils shall have the right to propose motions and vote, in their respective councils and committees.

14. Article VII: Committees, Sec. 1 – elimination of committees that are no longer in service.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 1. In addition to those committees named in Article VII, Part 2, Sec. 2, of the constitution, the following shall be standing committees of the Senate: Committee on University Strategic Planning, Faculty Retirement Recognition, Professional Concerns, Libraries, Centers and Institutes, and WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory.	Sec. 1. In addition to those committees named in Article VII, Part 2, Sec. 2, of the constitution, the following shall be standing committees of the Senate: Committee on University Strategic Planning, Faculty Retirement Recognition, Professional Concerns, Libraries, Centers and Institutes, and WMU Essential Studies Executive Advisory.

15. Article VII: Committees, Sec. 4 – clarification of members of committees to propose motions.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 4. All members of standing committees of the Faculty Senate shall have the right to propose motions and vote in their respective committees.	Sec. 4. All voting members of standing committees of the Faculty Senate shall have the right to propose motions and vote in their respective committees.