

Summary of Proposed Substantive Changes to the Faculty Senate Constitution

1. **Membership restriction: Art. II section 2.2.1**
2. **Change in representation ratio for associate professors: Art. II section 2.2.2**
3. **Change in representation ratio for assistant professors: Art. II section 2.2.3**
4. **Change in representation ratio for instructors: Art. II section 2.2.4**
5. **Announcement requirement: Art II section 3.1.3**
6. **Change in ballot type (remove “preferential”): Art. II section 3.3**
7. **Restriction for president (must be tenured) and simplified method of selecting senate webmaster: Art. III section 1**
8. **New officer (vice president): Art. III section 2**
9. **Committee name change (“ad hoc” replaces “special”): Art. IV section 1.2**
10. **Clarification or change to permanent committee term descriptions: Art. IV sections 3-5**
11. **Update executive committee membership (VP replaces webmaster): Art. IV section 6**
12. **University committee section extensively revised to update and correct and to add or stress reporting (to senate) requirements: Art. V**
13. **Add quorum call to meeting order of business: Art. VI section 4**

Details and rationale

Art. II section 2.2.1-4

Membership restriction and representation: Art. II section 2.2.1

Change in representation ratio for associate professors: Art. II section 2.2.2

Change in representation ratio for assistant professors: Art. II section 2.2.3

Change in representation ratio for instructors: Art. II section 2.2.4

2. Elective Members.

1. Elective members of the Faculty Senate must be associate professors, assistant professors, instructors or adjunct faculty of the general faculty not serving in an

administrative capacity above the level of Department Chair or equivalent who have completed no less than one academic year of full-time employment at the University at the time of taking office. **No candidate for a degree at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette shall be a member of the Faculty Senate.**

2. Associate professors shall be elected in the proportion of one member **per four** associate professors or fraction thereof in each faculty unit of the University. Associate professor Senate members shall be elected for three-year terms and shall take office at the first meeting following election.
3. Assistant professors shall be elected in the proportion of one member **per four** assistant professors or fraction thereof in each faculty unit of the University. Such members shall be elected for two-year terms and shall take office at the first meeting following election.
4. **One instructor shall be elected in from each faculty unit of the University. Such members shall be elected for one-year terms and shall take office at the first meeting following election.**
5. One adjunct faculty member shall be elected from each faculty unit of the University to serve a one-year term. Such members shall be elected for one-year terms and shall take office at the first meeting following election.

Commented [Unknown A1]: Added sentence barring UL Lafayette degree candidates from membership to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

Commented [Unknown A2]: “five” changed to “four”
To increase representation

Commented [Unknown A3]: See summary of substantive changes for details. The main change is separate treatment of assistant professors and instructors in this version.

Commented [Unknown A4]: “ten” changed to “four”
To increase representation among tenure-track faculty

Commented [Unknown A5]: Instructors are now treated in a separate paragraph. Also rephrased for consistency with other paragraphs

Rationale:

1. Added sentence barring UL Lafayette degree candidates from membership to avoid potential conflicts of interest.
- 2-5. The main change is separate treatment of assistant professors and instructors in this version.
2. Associate professors “per five” changed to “per four” to increase representation
3. Assistant professors “per ten including instructors” changed to “per four for assistant professors” to increase representation among tenure-track faculty while instructors are treated in a new subsection 4 below
4. Instructors were combined with assistant professors, now there is a new section

Art. II section 3

Announcement requirement: Art II section 3.3

Change in ballot type (remove “preferential”): Art. II section 3.3

Section 3. Election of Members.

1. **Elections shall be held at least two weeks prior to the first Senate meeting of each academic year. In an election to select Senate members, the following persons shall be eligible to vote from the faculty of their respective faculty units:**
 1. **Full-time associate professors, who shall select representatives of the associate professor rank.**
 2. **Full-time assistant professors, who shall select representatives of the assistant professor rank.**
3. **Instructors, who shall select representatives of the instructor ranks.**

Commented [Unknown A6]: See summary of substantive changes for details. In this version instructors and adjunct faculty are treated as two groups. Before they were treated as a combined group.

4. Adjunct faculty, who shall select representatives of the adjunct faculty ranks.
2. Prior to the elections each faculty member eligible for elective membership shall be polled to determine if they are willing to serve in the Senate as an active member (one who states the intention of attending at least one-half of the regularly scheduled Senate meetings). Only the names of those who indicate such willingness shall appear on the election ballot.
3. The Senate Secretary shall notify each faculty unit of the number of vacancies to be filled by election. The Senate Secretary will also send a university announcement to all faculty indicating the number of vacancies to be filled by election. Each faculty unit shall fill its vacancies through election by secret ballot. Four types of ballots are required — one for associate professors, one for assistant professors, one for instructors, and one for adjunct faculty.
4. no change
5. no change
6. Election irregularities or challenges within a faculty unit shall be referred to the Faculty Senate for arbitration. Election irregularities or challenges for President of the Faculty Senate, Vice President of the Faculty Senate or Secretary of the Faculty Senate shall be referred to the full Senate.

Commented [Unknown A7]: Sentence added requiring the secretary to send a general faculty announcement to increase awareness among the faculty.

Commented [Unknown A8]: Changed “preferential ballot” to “ballot” to conform with common practice among the faculty unit

Commented [Unknown A9]: Sentence modified to indicate the four (not three) types of ballots needed. Needed for consistency with the ungrouping of instructors and adjunct faculty in part 1 of this section

Commented [Unknown A10]: Last sentence updated to add Vice Present and “of the Faculty Senate” added to Secretary for consistency

Rationale:

subsection 3.1 - Assistant professors and instructors are treated separately (parts 2 and 3) to guarantee representation for both ranks and for consistency with proposed changes in the Elective Members subsection.

The wording of the section 3.1 was also revised for brevity and clarity.

Subsection 3.3 – Requirement that the secretary send a general faculty announcement added to increase awareness among the faculty.

The requirement of “preferential ballot” changed to “ballot” to conform with common practice among the faculty units. “Three” changed to “Four” to agree with proposed split of assistant professors and instructors from in subsection 3.1.1.

Subsection 3.6 Vice President added to agree with proposed new officer

Art. III sections 1-2

Restriction for president (must be tenured): Art. III section 1

New officer (vice president): Art. III section 2

Section 1. President of the Faculty Senate

The President of the Faculty Senate shall be a tenured member of the faculty at the time of nomination for the office. The President of the Faculty Senate or an appointed representative shall preside at all meetings of the Faculty Senate. Between meetings of the Senate, the President of the Faculty Senate

Commented [Unknown A11]: First sentence added to clarify that the President must be tenured.

shall serve the Senate as its chief administrative officer. The President of the Faculty Senate or an appointed representative shall enter into whatever negotiations or take whatever action is possible to implement the resolutions of the Senate and shall report the outcome of these activities to the Senate. The President of the Faculty Senate or a senator designated by the President of the Faculty Senate will serve as official representative of the University of Louisiana at Lafayette Faculty Senate to the Association of Louisiana Faculty Senates. The President of the Faculty Senate shall appoint a Senate Webmaster whose selection shall be approved by the Senate Executive Committee.

Section 2. Vice President of the Faculty Senate

The Vice President of the Faculty Senate shall be a tenured member of the faculty at the time of nomination for the office. The President may delegate to the Vice President to formalize the Vice President's role as Senate representative to the University Council and other duties as the President may prescribe. The Vice President shall preside at the meetings of the Senate in the absence of the President. The Vice President shall maintain financial records pertaining to the Faculty Senate.

Rationale:

Section 1 - clarification that the President must be tenured.

Section 2 - New officer (Vice President) proposed to increase efficiency of Senate operations and this and subsequent sections renumbered

Art. IV sections 1-6

Committee name change (“ad hoc” replaces “special”): Art. IV section 1.2

Clarification or change to permanent committee term descriptions: Art. IV sections 3-5

Update executive committee membership (VP replaces webmaster): Art. IV section 6

Senate Committees: Art. IV

Section 1. Committees

Reformatted as two subsections

subsection 1.1 describes the permanent committees

subsection 1.2 describes ad hoc committees note the proposed change from “special” to “ad hoc”

Rationale: Reformatted for clarity. Change “special” to “ad hoc” as the more appropriate title

Sections 3-5. Change and rationale:

Commented [Unknown A12]: “Faculty Senate” replaces “Senate” for consistency

Commented [Unknown A13]: “Faculty Senate” replaces “Senate” for consistency

Commented [Unknown A14]: “approved by the Senate Executive Committee” replaces “ratified by the Senate” – streamline process of appointing webmaster

Commented [Unknown A15]: New Section 2 added. New officer (Vice President) proposed to increase efficiency of Senate operations and subsequent sections renumbered

Commented [Unknown A16]: Reformatted as two subsections

This change applies to the three committees (Ways and Means, Academic Planning and Development, Governmental Concerns) with 3 year terms. “Members shall serve staggered three-year terms.” modified to “Subject to continued Senate membership, members shall serve staggered three-year terms.” to clarify that members with 1 or 2 year terms can also serve. For Academic Planning and Development this corrects the omission of a specified term in the old version.

Commented [Unknown A17]: Subject to continued Senate membership, Clause added to clarify that senators with 1 or 2 year terms can also serve.

Section 6. Faculty Senate-Executive Committee. Change and rationale:

Subsection 6.1 on membership changed to include the Vice President and exclude the senate webmaster for consistency with proposal for new officer .

Section 7. Faculty Senate-Faculty Advisory Council Committee

1. The Faculty Advisory Council of the University of Louisiana System consists of one faculty representative and an alternate representative from each System institution. These persons shall be selected by the Faculty Senate of each institution. Each institution shall pay expenses of its faculty representative (or alternate) to such meetings as the Faculty Advisory Council may call.
2. No change
3. No change

Commented [Unknown A18]: New introductory Section 1 describing the UL System Faculty Advisory Council with comment regarding funding for local expenses. -- Added for clarity

Rationale: New introductory subsection 7.1 describing the UL System Faculty Advisory Council with comment regarding funding for local expenses added for clarity

Art. V

University committee section extensively revised to update and correct and to add or stress reporting (to senate) requirements: Art.V

University Committees: Art. V

Change and rationale: This article has been reorganized and updated. Some former content is now moved to subsequent sections. There are now 3 sections. (see below)

Section 1 is an introductory/overview section describing committees of interest to the senate,

Section 2 Committees slated by the Senate

Section 3 Committees reporting to the senate.

Content was edited to remove inactive committees and update descriptions.

Section 1. Senate Interest

The Faculty Senate has a special interest in the University committees listed in this article. The Curriculum Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Benefits and Welfare Committee, Library Committee, Committee on Academic Affairs and Standards, and Student Evaluation of Instruction Committee are slated by the Senate. These committees are discussed in Section 2. The activities of four additional committees - Campus Planning Committee, General Education Committee,

Commented [Unknown A19]: This introductory section now gives an overview. Some former content is now moved to subsequent sections

Distance Learning Leadership Council, and Strategic Program Review Committee – are also of particular interest to the Senate. These committees are discussed in section 3.

Section 2. Committees Slated by the Senate

The Curriculum Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Faculty Benefits and Welfare Committee, Library Committee, Committee on Academic Affairs and Standards, and Student Evaluation of Instruction Committee shall meet regularly as required in the performance of their duties. At its first meeting each academic year, each committee shall, in concert with the administration, review its duties and responsibilities and record them with the Secretary of the Faculty Senate, who shall then distribute the statement to the members of the Senate. Each of these committees shall, at the April meeting of the Senate, present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A20]: New Section for committees slated by the Senate with subsections for each committee (parking and planning removed)

Curriculum Committee

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 4 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

4. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A21]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Faculty Grievance Committee

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 5 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

5. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A22]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Faculty Benefits and Welfare Committee

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A23]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Library Committee

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A24]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Committee on Academic Affairs and Standards

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A25]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Student Evaluation of Instruction Committee

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A26]: Added to stress this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Section 3. Committees that Report to Senate

Commented [Unknown A27]: Reorganized as section 3 Introductory section outlining reporting requirements added

Since the activities of the Campus Planning Committee, General Education Committee, Distance Learning Leadership Council, and Strategic Program Review Committee are of particular interest to the Senate, these committee shall provide periodic reports to the Faculty Senate. These periodic reports shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Faculty Senate and presented in person, by a committee representative, at a regular Senate meeting.

At its first meeting each academic year, each committee shall, in concert with the administration, review its duties and responsibilities and record them with the Secretary of the Faculty Senate, who shall then distribute the statement to the members of the Senate. Each of these committees shall, at the April meeting of the Senate, present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Campus Planning

Commented [Unknown A28]: Description updated

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

General Education Committee

Commented [Unknown A29]: Description updated

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Distance Learning Leadership Council

Commented [Unknown A30]: Description updated

The only substantive change is the addition of subsection 3 to emphasize the reporting requirement.

3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Strategic Program Review Committee

Commented [Unknown A31]: Description updated

1. The Strategic Program Review Committee, working closely with the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, is charged with designing and implementing the regular internal academic program review process. Reports directly to the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs.
2. No substantive change.
3. At the April meeting of the Senate, the committee shall present a comprehensive report of its activities during the previous calendar year.

Commented [Unknown A32]: Inserted “ working closely with the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs” to stress that program review is an administrative task. This is more inline with our typical peer institutions

Commented [Unknown A33]: Added to this reporting requirement to facilitate communication with the Senate.

Art. VI section 4

Add quorum call to meeting order of business: Art VI section 4

Order of Business: Art VI. Section 4

“Call for quorum” added

Rationale: improve efficiency and avoid invalid votes