



Policy 02:200 – Faculty’s Role and Participation in Institutional Decision-Making

Faculty members have an obligation to be informed about issues affecting the greater good of the University community and to become involved in decision-making, especially regarding academic affairs. The faculty’s role as active participants in University governance is assured through the Faculty Senate’s Constitution and Bylaws.

The Faculty Senate has been established by the Board of Trustees as an advisory body to the President and is a recognized channel of communication between faculty and administration. The Faculty Senate makes recommendations to the President on academic matters and other issues of importance to faculty but does not possess any final decision-making authority. The Faculty Senate may not issue public statements on behalf of the University or otherwise represent institutional positions; provided, however, that this restriction shall not limit the Faculty Senate’s ability to provide confidential advisory recommendations to institutional leadership on matters related to the University’s academic mission and operations. In addition to these elected and appointed positions, faculty are participating members on University committees. The Faculty Senate also serves as a committee on committees and annually reviews the University committee structure, recommending changes in committees and committee memberships.

The Faculty Senate shall be limited to no more than sixty (60) members and shall be comprised of two Senators from each college or school, with one Senator to be selected by the faculty of each such college or school and one Senator to be appointed by the University President. For the purposes of this policy, “college or school” shall mean each academic department. Senators shall be appointed or elected to two (2) year terms, pursuant to an election schedule to be proposed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the University President.

The University President shall make all appointments to Faculty Senate leadership positions, which will consist of a President, President-Elect, Secretary and Alternate Secretary. The Faculty Senate may provide recommendations to the President for appointment to such leadership positions. Upon appointment by the University President, all officers shall assume their duties at the second Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year.

A Senator may be immediately removed from the Faculty Senate by the University President for failing to conduct his or her responsibilities in good faith within the Faculty Senate's parameters, failing to attend Faculty Senate meetings, or engaging in other misconduct. A Senator may also be

removed upon the recommendation of the University Provost and approval by University President.

Approved 5/99, Amended 9/26