

Proposed Changes to the Charter and Bylaws of the General Faculty

(Current language of the Charter and bylaws are given in italics. Proposed changes are given in bold face.)

- 1. The Faculty Council shall be renamed "Faculty Senate". All references to Faculty Council contained in the Charter and Bylaws shall be changed to read "Faculty Senate". All references to "Councilors" shall be changed to read "Senators".**

Article I - Section 4.

Officers. The officers of the General Faculty shall consist of the President of the University, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary. The Vice-Chair and the Secretary shall be elected by the General Faculty from nominations made by the Faculty Council.. The Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of one year and then shall automatically become Chair for the succeeding year. The Chair shall not be eligible for immediate re-election as Vice-Chair. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretary shall keep complete records of Faculty proceedings and be responsible for the secretarial work related to the business of the General Faculty. Only voting members who have had at least three years of faculty service shall be eligible to hold any elective office of the General Faculty. Persons who hold administrative positions of dean or above, or equivalent, are not eligible for election as officers of the General Faculty.

Officers. The officers of the General Faculty shall consist of the Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Chair-elect, and the Secretary. The Vice-Chair, Chair-elect, and the Secretary shall be elected by the General Faculty from nominations made by the Faculty Council.. The Vice-Chair shall be elected for a term of three years and shall not be eligible for immediate re-election as Vice-Chair. The Chair-elect shall be elected for a term of one year and will then automatically become Chair for the succeeding two years. The election of the Chair-elect will take place in the spring during the sitting Chair's first year in office. The Chair shall not be eligible for immediate re-election as Chair-elect. The Secretary shall be elected for a term of three years and shall be eligible for re-election. The Secretary shall keep complete records of Faculty proceedings and be responsible for the secretarial work related to the business of the General Faculty. Only voting members who have had at least three years of faculty service or who hold tenured faculty positions shall be eligible to hold any elective office of the General Faculty. Persons who hold administrative positions of assistant dean or above, or equivalent, are not eligible for election as officers of the General Faculty. The provisions of this change to the Charter shall apply only to officers elected subsequent to the adoption of this amendment.

Article II - The Faculty Council

Section 1. Composition. The Faculty Council shall consist of elected members of the General Faculty, the President of the University; the Chair of the General Faculty; the Vice-Chair of the General Faculty; and the Secretary of the General Faculty. Eligibility for election to the Faculty Council requires academic rank of instructor or above, or the equivalent, and three or more years of faculty service. Faculty members holding administrative positions of dean or above are not eligible for election to the Faculty Council.

(The rest of the Section is unaltered except for the replacement of "Council" by "Senate" and "Councilors" by "Senators".)

Section 1. Composition. The Faculty Senate shall consist of elected members of the General Faculty, the Chair of the General Faculty, the Chair-elect of the General Faculty, the Vice-Chair of the General Faculty; and the Secretary of the General Faculty. Eligibility for election to the Faculty Senate requires academic rank of instructor or above, or the equivalent, and three or more years of faculty service or tenured academic rank. . Faculty members holding administrative positions of assistant dean or above are not eligible for election to the Faculty Senate.

Section 3. Officers: The officers of the General Faculty shall also serve in the equivalent positions of leadership of the Faculty Council; namely, the President, the Chair, the Vice-Chair, and the Secretary.

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Bylaws of the General Faculty

Section III.

A. Nomination of Officers.

1. In accordance with Article I, Section 4 of the Charter, the Faculty Council at its regular February meeting shall nominate two Faculty members for the position of Vice-Chair of the General Faculty for the ensuing Faculty Council year except when a vacancy in the office of Chair has been filled by the Vice-Chair and a new Vice-Chair has been elected as provided in Bylaw III, paragraph E.2 of the Bylaws of the General Faculty.

1. In accordance with Article I, Section 4 of the Charter, the Faculty Senate at its regular February meeting during the first year of the sitting Chair's term of office, shall nominate two Faculty members, at least one of which must not be currently serving in the Faculty Senate, for the position of Chair-elect of the General Faculty for the ensuing Faculty Council year except when a vacancy in the office of Chair has been filled by the Chair-elect and a new Chair-elect has been elected as provided in Bylaw III, paragraph E.2 of the Bylaws of the General Faculty.

2. Nomination for the three-year term of the Secretary of the General Faculty shall be separately conducted with the same procedure as that used for the Vice-Chair.

2. Nomination for the three-year terms of the Secretary of the General Faculty and the Vice-Chair of the General Faculty shall be separately conducted with the same procedure as that used for the Chair-elect.

3. At the nominating meeting, each Faculty Council member shall suggest, in writing, one candidate for each position. Successive secret ballots shall be taken until two candidates for an office receive a combined vote of at least 75 percent of the total votes cast. A written announcement of the names of the persons so nominated shall be distributed to the General Faculty within ten days.

3. The Rules and Procedures Committee shall solicit nominations from the General Faculty for Faculty Senate officers at the appropriate time. Two nominations for each office, one of which must be for a candidate not currently serving in the Faculty Senate, will be presented to the Faculty Senate for consideration at the regular February meeting of the Senate. Additional nominations may be made by the Senators. Successive secret ballots shall be taken until two candidates, at least one of whom must not be currently serving in the Faculty Senate, receive a combined total of 75 percent or more of the total votes cast. A written announcement of the names of the persons so nominated shall be distributed to the General Faculty within ten days.

4. Additional nominations for Vice-Chair or Secretary of the General Faculty may be placed on the primary election ballot provided that a petition signed by fifty (50) members of the General Faculty is submitted for each such nomination by March 10.

4. Additional nominations for Chair-elect, Vice-Chair or Secretary of the General Faculty may be placed on the primary election ballot provided that a petition signed by fifteen (15) members of the General Faculty is submitted for each such nomination by March 10.

Bylaws of the General Faculty

Section III.

C. Election Procedures

To implement electronic balloting, the following section must be appended:

5. The word "mail" in the Charter and Bylaws of the General Faculty shall be interpreted to include electronic voting by eligible members of the General Faculty.

E. Vacancies

1. Definition of vacancy. A vacancy shall be adjudged to exist when a Faculty Council member is elected Vice-Chair or Secretary of the General Faculty; or when an officer or Faculty Council member (1) dies, (2) retires, (3) resigns from office or from the University, or (4) goes on leave for a semester or more.

1. Definition of vacancy. A vacancy shall be adjudged to exist when a Faculty Senate member is elected Vice-Chair, Chair-Elect, or Secretary of the General Faculty; or when an officer or Faculty Senate member (1) dies, (2) retires, (3) resigns from office or from the University, or (4) goes on leave for a semester or more.

2. Procedure for Filling Vacancies.

a. A vacancy in the office of Chair shall be filled by the Vice-Chair, who shall serve out the term of the incumbent and succeed to his or her regular term of Chair the following Faculty Council year. A new Vice-Chair shall be elected following Bylaw III, Section C, who shall serve out the term of the incumbent and then a regular term as Vice-Chair. The Vice-Chair shall succeed as Chair upon completion of the regular term. A vacancy shall be filled within 60 days.

a. A vacancy in the office of Chair shall be filled by the Chair-elect, who shall serve out the term of the incumbent and succeed to his or her regular term of Chair the following Faculty Senate year. A new Chair-elect shall be elected in the normal rotation. Should the vacancy in the office of Chair occur during the first year of the incumbent's two year term when there is no Chair-elect, the Vice-Chair shall serve out the term of the incumbent and a new Vice-Chair will be elected as described in Section III.E.2.b.

b. A vacancy in the office of Vice-Chair shall be filled by election of the General Faculty following Bylaw III, Section C. A person elected Vice-Chair in a special election shall serve out the term of the incumbent and shall succeed as Chair as described by Bylaw III, Section D. A vacancy shall be filled within 60 days.

c. A vacancy in the office of Secretary shall be filled by an election of the General Faculty following Bylaw III, Section C, and that person will complete the term of the incumbent. A vacancy shall be filled with 60 days.

(Sections D.b. and D.c. are replaced by the following:)

b. A vacancy in the office of Vice-Chair or Secretary shall be filled by election of the General Faculty following Bylaw III, Section C, and that person will complete the term of the incumbent. A vacancy shall be filled within 60 days unless it occurs during the summer term or one month prior to the end of the spring semester. In such a case, the vacancy shall be filled within 60 days of the start of the fall term of the year in which the vacancy occurs.

(Section III.E.2.d becomes Section III.E.2.c)

F. Special Elections. Special Elections to fill vacancies shall be conducted within 60 days when (1) more than three vacancies exist in the membership of the Faculty Council; or (2) a prior election has been voided by the Council. Special elections shall follow, as far as possible, the same nomination and election procedures used for the annual election.

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