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I B 4. Faculty Status Committee

The Faculty Status Committee is an independent investigative faculty committee that reports and makes recommendations directly to the president. Functions of the Faculty Status Committee are:

- (1) Reviews, mediates, and/or adjudicates disputes between individual faculty members and between individual faculty members and the administration.
- (2) Makes recommendations to the Faculty Affairs Committee and to the president concerning policies about faculty affairs which arise out of its conciliatory and judicial functions.
- (3) Calls special meetings of the faculty or any component thereof, giving reasonable notice, at which time the chair of the Committee shall preside.
- (4) Reviews any problem within its jurisdiction brought to it by any member of the faculty.
- (5) Makes periodic reports (at least annually) to the Faculty Senate and to the faculty concerning its operations.

The Faculty Status Committee is responsible to the faculty. It has twelve (12) members, consisting of nine (9) tenured faculty and three (3) career-track faculty, each serving for three (3) years. Four (4) members' terms end on August 15 and they are not eligible to succeed themselves immediately. Further information is provided on the Faculty Status Committee website <https://facsen.wsu.edu/faculty-status-committee/>.

a) Nominations

During the last two (2) weeks of February, the Faculty Status Committee shall form a nominating committee composed of two members of the Faculty Status Committee and three (3) other members of the faculty designated by the Faculty Status Committee. By April 15, the Nominating Committee will submit to the faculty a list of eight (8) nominees consisting of six (6) nominees for the three tenured faculty positions and two (2) career-track faculty for the career-track position. This committee of five (5) shall request nominations from the faculty through the media, such as a WSU internal communications newsletter, and/or other appropriate means at least two (2) weeks prior to the selection of candidates by the nominating committee. If there are vacancies caused by death or resignation during the previous year, the nominating committee will submit two (2) nominations for each vacancy.

If membership on the committee falls below seven during any one (1) year, a special election is held to fill vacancies. Nominations at special elections are made in the same way as above. If vacancies occur during the summer, the Faculty Status Committee may appoint members to serve until October 1 of that year.

b) Election

Election of new members to the Faculty Status Committee shall be by electronic ballot. This ballot is to be delivered to the faculty (academic faculty, extension faculty, and library faculty) by April 15 with terms beginning August 16. The

ballot will be divided into two parts to facilitate the election of the correct number of candidates from each track. One section will contain the names of six (6) tenured nominees and shall provide an opportunity to enter the names of up to three (3) eligible write-in candidates. Faculty may vote for up to three (3) nominees or eligible write-in candidates in this category. The other section of the ballot will contain the names of two career-track nominees and provide the opportunity to enter an eligible write-in candidate. In this section, faculty may vote for one (1) nominee or eligible write-in candidate.

Ballot Composition

	Tenure Track	Career Track
Number of nominations	6	2
Number of write-in possibilities	3	1
Number of votes	3	1

Ballots on which more than the appropriate number of candidates in each category are indicated shall not be counted. The three tenured nominees or eligible write-ins in the tenured section and the career-track nominee or eligible write in career-track section of ballot receiving the greatest number of votes in their category are elected to three (3) year positions. In the event that a vacancy occurs before the end of a member's regular three-year (3) term, the nominee or eligible candidate from the same category receiving the next greatest number of votes in the election of that vacating member shall be eligible to serve immediately and fills the remainder of the term. In the event that a vacancy occurs before the end of a member's regular three-year (3) term, the nominee or eligible candidate receiving the next greatest number of votes in the election of that vacating member shall be eligible to serve immediately and fills the remainder of the term.

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If membership on the committee falls below seven during any one (1) year, a special election is held to fill vacancies. Nominations at special elections are made in the same way as above. If vacancies occur during the summer, the Faculty Status Committee may appoint members to serve until October 1 of that year.

c) Election

Election of new members to the Faculty Status Committee shall be by electronic ballot. This ballot is to be delivered to the faculty (academic faculty, extension faculty, and library faculty) by April 15 with terms beginning August 16. The ballot will be divided into two parts to facilitate the election of the correct number of candidates from each track. One section will contain the names of six (6) tenured nominees and shall provide an opportunity to enter the names of up to three (3) eligible write-in candidates. Faculty may vote for up to three (3) nominees or eligible write-in candidates in this category. The other section of the ballot will contain the names of two career-track nominees and provide the opportunity to enter an eligible write-in candidate. In this section, faculty may vote for one (1) nominee or eligible write-in candidate.

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	<u>Tenure Track</u>	<u>Career Track</u>
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d) Leave of Absence

If a member of the Faculty Status Committee goes on leave for a period of four (4) months to a year or for any reason is unable to participate in the work of the committee for a similar period of time, the committee is empowered to appoint a replacement for the period of absence. A member who anticipates a longer absence should resign so that the vacancy may be filled at the annual election.

e) Powers of the Committee

In addition to the functions enumerated above, the Faculty Status Committee has power to elect its own officers, fix dates of its meetings, make its own rules of procedure, designate other members of the faculty to assist in its work, and make reports and recommendations to the faculty and to the president.

After giving reasonable notice, it may call special meetings of the faculty or any component thereof. The chair of the committee presides at such meetings.

f) Assessments

For defraying necessary expenses of the Faculty Status Committee, the faculty may vote such assessments as may be necessary. These are payable to the treasurer of the committee.

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