



DATE: April 4, 2024
TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: The Faculty Senate Steering Committee
RE: Faculty senate constitution and senate bylaw amendments

On behalf of the faculty senate steering committee, the following amendments to the Faculty Senate Constitution and the Faculty Senate Bylaws documents were proposed on March 7, 2024, and updated on April 4th by the faculty senate executive secretary in response to the discussion from the March 21, 2024, faculty senate meeting:

Overall amendments:

- 1) Combine these into a single document titled "Faculty Senate Constitution and Bylaws".
- 2) Adopt WSU style guide for capitalization.
- 3) Moving all amendment dates to the end of the document.
- 4) Replace "he/she" with "they".
- 5) Amending "non-tenure-track" to "career track" throughout the document.
- 6) Replacing "shall" with "will" throughout the document.

Article I amendments

- 7) Article I, Section 1: Amend "women and minorities" to "diversity, equity, and inclusion"
- 8) Article I reference the *Faculty Manual* for more detailed information.

Article II amendments

- 9) Article II, Section 1 (new section): Provide details on eligibility criteria for apportionment and service on Faculty Senate, specifically:
 - a. specifying a minimum 0.5 FTE appointment.
 - b. defining disqualifying administrative positions.
- 10) Article II, Section 5 (apportionment): Amend "greater than" to "minus" for clarity.
- 11) Article II, Section 5C: Amend "consistency" to "constituency".
- 12) Article II, Section 5C: Amend "shall" to "are expected to".
- 13) Article II, Section 6B and 6C are switched to bring information about single senators' terms together.
- 14) Article II, Section 6B (term limit): Provide for flexibility for constituencies to allow extensions of senate terms.
- 15) Article II, Section 6D (appointment status): Make consistent with eligibility in Article II, Section 1.
- 16) Article II, Section 7A (appointment status): Make consistent with eligibility in Article II, Section 1.



- 17) Article II, Section 7C (appointment outside of constituency): Clarify eligibility language to make consistent with eligibility in Article II, Section 1.
- 18) Article II, Section 8 (Graduate and Professional Student Association) is removed since covered by Article II, Section 3.
- 19) Article II, Section 8A (Election Procedure – Time of Election): Include “with the expectation that elections be completed by May 1”
- 20) Article II, Section 8C (Election Procedure – Vacancy): Specify that “temporary” means “less than one semester”.
- 21) Article II, Section 8D (Recall of Senators): Move from Article V, Section 4 as this pertains to election of senators
- 22) Article II, Section 8E (Special Elections of Senators): Added to provide a process for special elections and to specify terms for senators elected under special elections.

Article III amendments

- 23) Article III, Section 1 (Regulations): Remove “bylaws” from first sentence. Also move Article I of Bylaws referring to *Robert’s Rules of Order* as a governing document.
- 24) Article III, Section 2 (Officers): Specify that the officers are non-voting members of the Senate, except that the presiding officer casts the deciding vote to break a tie. Also specify that a senator who becomes an officer vacates their senate seat.
- 25) Article III, Section 2A (Election of Officers): Move from Article III of the Bylaws.
 - a. Remove chair-elect succession language as already covered in Section 2C.
 - b. Replace “Elections” with “Regular elections”
 - c. Allow for special elections for vacancies in chair-elect or executive secretary positions
 - d. Specify electronic survey manner of officer elections
 - e. Specify that 40 percent of senators must vote to ratify an officer election
 - f. Specify when officer terms begin
- 26) Article III, Section 2B (Recall of Officers): Added language to allow for recall of Faculty Senate officers
- 27) Article III, Section 2C (Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past Chair): Added language to specify succession process among these officers
- 28) Article III, Section 2D (Executive Secretary): Separate the language for this officer from that from Chair officers.
- 29) Article III, Section 3 (Senate Meetings):
 - a. Move from Article II of the Bylaws
 - b. Include role of chair officers as presiding officer for meetings of the Senate
 - c. Amend “2” to “two”
 - d. Specify that the presiding officer casts the deciding vote in case of a tie



- e. Specify that the executive secretary provides an attendance report to each constituency
 - f. Specify how non-senators are allowed to participate in Senate meetings
- 30) Article III, Section 4 (Committees):
- a. Section 4A (Standing Committees): Move from Article VIII of the Bylaws
 - b. Section 4B (Committee on Committees): Specify that the chair-elect serves as the chair of the Committee on Committees
 - c. Section 4D (Election of Committee Members and Officers): Move from Article IX and Article X of the Bylaws.
 - d. Section 4E (Qualifications for Committee Membership): Clarify the role of the Committee on Committees as nominating authority.
 - e. Section 4E (Qualifications for Committee Membership): Clarify eligibility rules for committee membership as the same as Article II, Section 1.
 - f. Section 4F (Meetings of Senate-elected Committees and Subcommittees): Move from Article XI of the Bylaws.
 - g. Section 4G (Ad Hoc Committees): Language inserted concerning one-year longevity of ad hoc committees
 - h. Section 4H (Participation of Committee Chairs in Faculty Senate): Specify “*ex officio*” membership of committee chairs and their role in Senate meetings
- 31) Article III, Section 5 (Relations with External Agencies):
- a. Section 5A (Legislative Representative): Moved from Article XIII of the Bylaws.
 - b. Section 5A (Legislative Representative): Specify dual role on state-wide Council of Faculty
 - c. Section 5A (Legislative Representative): Allow for re-election
 - d. Section 5A (Legislative Representative): Amend “Elected representative vacancies” to “Vacancies of the office of legislative representative”
 - e. Section 5B (Faculty Regent): Moved from Article XIV of the Bylaws
 - f. Section 5B (Faculty Regent): Insert “When prompted by the Office of the Governor”
 - g. Section 5B (Faculty Regent): Insert “Full-time faculty and emeritus faculty are eligible for nomination.”
 - h. Section 5C (Representatives to Other External Agencies): Moved from Article XIII, Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Bylaws.

Article IV (Committee on Faculty Status) Removal.

- 32) Article IV (Committee on Faculty Status) is removed as this is covered under the *Faculty Manual* rather than by Faculty Senate.

Article IV (Petition and Referendum) is inserted.

- 33) Article IV, Section 1 (Individual Petition): "Individual" is inserted to distinguish this action from "Formal" petitions in Section 2.

Article V (Amendments to the Constitution and Bylaws)

- 34) Article V is reworded into a single paragraph.

Respectfully submitted,



Matt Hudelson, Executive Secretary