

Proposition: 11-23/24

Proposal Type: Bill Resolution Memorial Joint Proposition Other
(If Joint proposition, also select type)

Title: Revision to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of New Mexico State University.

Date Submitted: March 27, 2024

Sponsor(s): Gaylene Fasenko

Proposed Committee: Budget and Resources

Prior Approvals: Regents Policy 2.10 defines a procedure for non-academic unit organizational changes. A change in the non-academic (administrative) units (reorganization, reporting, and change to administrative titles) was ratified by the Board of Regents at the July 14, 2023 Board of Regents meeting.

Proposal: To make revisions to the Faculty Senate Constitution, to clarify and streamline the constitution as well as to account for the reorganization and administrative title changes of NMSU administrative leadership. See attached document for proposed changes.

Rationale: The Faculty Senate Constitution must be revised to account for administrative title changes and to clarify and streamline the Constitution.

1-D Constitution of the Faculty Senate

CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY Revisions Passed by Faculty Senate ~~May 5, 2022~~

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(As ratified by the general faculty and reported to the Faculty Senate on July 18, 1961; amended by the general faculty and reported to the Faculty Senate on November 16, 1984 and January 14, 1988; amended by the general faculty and reported to the Faculty Senate on January 14, 1993 [bylaws] and April 4, 1993 [Constitution]; amended by votes of the general faculty October 1995, October 2004, December 2004, December 2005, October 30, 2008, and May 5, 2011; amended by the general faculty and reported to the Faculty Senate on September 6, 2012. amended by the general faculty and reported to the Faculty Senate on April 02, 2015; Passed by the Faculty Senate April 2, 2020 and ratified by vote of the Faculty reported September 3, 2020; amended and passed by the Faculty Senate on February 4, 2021 and ratified by vote of the Faculty; amended and passed by the Faculty Senate on October 7, 2021 and ratified by vote of the Faculty; amended and passed by the Faculty Senate on May 5, 2022 and ratified by vote of the Faculty; ~~amended and passed by the Faculty Senate on May , 2024 and ratified by vote of the Faculty~~)

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ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of this organization shall be the Faculty Senate of the New Mexico State University. For the purpose of this Constitution, the term “faculty” shall refer to those individuals who meet one of the following conditions:

1. A ~~tenured~~ faculty member who is either tenured or in a tenure track position
2. A faculty member in a regular, non-tenure track faculty position
3. A faculty member in a temporary, non-tenure track position who has been employed at NMSU for at least four semesters in the last 36 months and are not retired.

ARTICLE II – FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

Section 1.

The Faculty Senate shall have legislative jurisdiction over policies affecting the university’s academic mission in regard to teaching, research, service, outreach, and extension.

Section 2.

Legislation that is passed by the Faculty Senate that affects the Regents Policy Manual and the Administrative Rules and Procedures or other policy documents shall be sent to the University Chancellor/President who must act on it in accordance with Section 1.10 of the University’s Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP) and Section ~~1.70-1.00~~ of the Regents Policy Manual (RPM). Legislation which is passed by the Faculty Senate that does not affect the ARP or RPM or other policy documents shall be sent by the Faculty Senate Chair to the appropriate party(ies) at the discretion of the Faculty Senate Chair.

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Section 3.

The Faculty Senate shall have authority to determine its procedures and the procedures of its committees.

ARTICLE III – COMPOSITION AND PERSONNEL

Section 1.

The Senate shall be composed of three categories of members: (1) the elected Chair of the Faculty Senate; (2) 68 elected senators; and (3) ex officio nonvoting members as specified in ~~the~~ the Bylaws of the NMSU Faculty Senate. Of

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the 68 elected senators, 58 shall be tenured or tenure-track faculty allocated as given below:

- 5 from Dona Ana Community College ([DACC](#)),
- 2 from NMSU-Alamogordo,
- 1 from NMSU-Grants
- 3 from the Cooperative Extension Service,

- 1 from the University Library; ~~and~~

The remaining 46 tenure-track members shall be divided into 2 categories;

- 1) 23 elected from the academic colleges at the Las Cruces campus ~~'s colleges based in in~~ proportion to the number of enrolled students in all majors within each college enrolled (both graduate and undergraduate students) ~~and attending the main campus academic departments, and~~
- 2) 23 elected from the academic colleges at the Las Cruces campus ~~'s colleges in based on the~~ proportion to the number of tenured or tenure-track faculty ~~in the main campus in the~~ academic departments in each college.

The ~~final remaining~~ 10 members shall be non-tenure-track faculty members, allocated as given below:

- 2 from ~~Dona Ana Community College~~ DACC,
- 1 from NMSU-Alamogordo,
- 1 from NMSU-Grants
- 1 from the Cooperative Extension Service; and
- 5 from the colleges at the Las Cruces campus ~~'s colleges~~, with the following stipulations:
 - a) no more than 1 nontenure-track representative from any department may serve at the same time, and
 - b) no more than 2 nontenure-track representatives from any of the senate ~~representative electing~~ groups as defined in Article ~~VI~~, Section ~~2~~ 4, may serve at the same time. (05/2015)

Section. 2.

For colleges in which the number of departments exceeds or equals the number of elected senators, no more than one elected senator shall serve from a single department. For colleges in which the number of departments is less than the number of elected senators, there shall be at least one elected senator from each department.

Using data from the ~~S~~spring semester census, the Vice Chair will analyze and report the Faculty Head Counts and the Faculty full-time equivalents by college and campus for tenured and tenure track faculty. Number of students enrolled in each major ~~enrolled~~ (graduate and undergraduate) is based on Student Headcount. For the Las Cruces Main Campus, only primary majors within the college are counted; the "other" category includes primary majors not in academic colleges such as interdisciplinary majors and students majoring at the community colleges but enrolled in Las Cruces Campus courses.

ARTICLE IV – ELECTION OF SENATORS

Section. 1.

Definitions:

Voting group: A voting group is a group of faculty members within a specified group who elect a particular senator(s) or a group of senators from within that group.

~~**Representative group:** A representative group are the senators that caucus together to elect representatives to the faculty senate leadership committee, or from which a senior senator is identified who fulfills roles as stated in the faculty senate bylaws or serves on policy related committees.~~

The Faculty Senate consists of 14 voting groups:-

1. ~~NMSU~~ Alamogordo ~~Campus~~ tenured and tenure track-faculty
2. ~~Dona Ana CC DACC~~ tenured and tenure track-faculty
3. ~~NMSU~~ Grants ~~Campus~~ tenured and tenure track-faculty
4. The University Library
5. The College of Arts and Sciences;
6. The College of Business;
7. The College of Engineering; ~~and~~
8. The College of Health Education, and Social Transformation
9. The College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences*;
10. The Cooperative Extension Service
11. The non-tenure track faculty of ~~NMSU~~ Alamogordo ~~Campus~~
12. The non-tenure track faculty of ~~Dona Ana CC DACC~~
13. The non-tenure track faculty of ~~NMSU~~ Grants ~~Campus~~

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14. The non-tenure track faculty of NMSU Las Cruces Campus, including ~~from~~ the Cooperative Extension Service and the University Library

*Faculty with appointments within the Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES) are considered members of the College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Faculty, as defined in Article I, may only vote for senators from within their voting group. For faculty who hold appointments in more than one voting group, they may only vote for senators from the group which is the largest fraction of their appointment. Elections will be on the basis of one person, one vote.

Section 2.

Representative group: ~~A representative group are the~~ senators that caucus together to elect representatives to the Faculty Senate Leadership Committee (FSLC), or from which a senior senator is identified who fulfills roles as stated in the faculty senate bylaws or serves on policy related committees.

The ~~Faculty~~ ~~s~~Senate consists of 9 representative groups; ~~are representatives from:~~

Tenured and Tenure Track ~~Faculty~~ from:

- ~~1. 1. The tenured and tenure track faculty from NMSU-Alamogordo Campus, DACCDona Ana CC, and NMSU-Grants Campuses. Efforts to coordinate between this representative group (group 1) and representative group 7 should be made such that the elected representatives elected from groups 1 and 7 are not from the same campus.~~
- ~~2. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the University Library~~
- ~~3. 2. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences;~~
- ~~4. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the Cooperative Extension Service~~
- ~~5. 3. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences;~~
- ~~6. 4. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Business;~~
- ~~7. 5. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Engineering;~~
- ~~8. 6. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation~~

Non-Tenure Track Faculty from:

- ~~9. 7. The non-tenure track faculty of NMSU-Alamogordo, Campus, DACCDona Ana CC, NMSU-Grants, campus, and the Las Cruces Campus, including from the Cooperative Extension Service and the University Library. Efforts to coordinate between this representative group (group 7) and representative group 1 should be made such that the elected representatives from groups 1 and 7 are not from the same campus.~~

Non-Tenure Track Faculty and Tenured and Tenure Track Faculty from:

- ~~8. The University Library~~
- ~~9. The Cooperative Extension Service~~

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For the purposes of defining the voting groups, faculty with appointments in the Agricultural Experiment Station are considered members of the College of Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Faculty, as defined in Article I, may only vote for senators from their voting group. For faculty who hold appointments in more than one voting group, they may only vote for senators from the group which is the largest fraction of their appointment. Elections will be on the basis of one person, one vote.

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The tenured and tenure-track faculty from Alamogordo Campus, Dona Ana CC, and Grants Campus form one representative group and the non-tenure track faculty of all campuses will form one representative group.

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Section. 3.2.

Elections of senators for each voting group ~~except Cooperative Extension Service~~ will be completed by the last day of March occur in March. ~~Cooperative Extension Service senators shall be elected during the annual conference of the Cooperative Extension Service.~~

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Section. 4.3.

The Faculty Senate Vice Chair, ~~or their designee with approval of the Faculty Senate as a whole,~~ will oversee the election of Senators. ~~This will include advising and assisting Senior Senators with appropriate election procedures, ensuring that elections are complete by the end of March, and reporting election results back to the Faculty Senate Chair and the Faculty Senate Recording Secretary.~~ The election of senators for each ~~representative voting group~~ will be conducted by the ~~Senior Senator*~~ of that ~~voting representative group who will be designated as the Chair of the representative group.~~ Faculty may ~~self-nominate or be nominated by the Group Chair and~~ by faculty members from ~~within that representative voting group;~~ the Group Chair will ~~the Senior Senator will be responsible for the following:~~

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- 1) ~~Solicit nominations from the faculty at large that are within their voting group. The Chair shall advertise the open positions for no less than 2 weeks, using appropriate media to ensure that potential candidates are made aware of the senate seats that are open. -opening.~~
- 2) ~~Ensure that the call for nominations for Faculty Senate are sent out no less than two times, and that the open period to receive nominations is no less than 2 weeks.~~
- 3) ~~Verify with each of the nominees that they are willing to let their name stand for election to Faculty Senate.~~
- 4) ~~Create electronic ballots and send out to all eligible faculty using Elections shall be by a secure electronic method or, at the discretion of the Faculty Senate Chair and with the concurrence of the Faculty Senate as a whole, by secret written ballot.~~ Voting shall be open for 10 ten (10) business days. In the event of a tie vote, the result shall be determined by lot.
- 5) ~~Within ten (10) business days after the election inform the nominees, and the Faculty Senate Vice Chair of the results.~~ shall inform the Faculty Senate Chair, the recording secretary, and the Group Chairs of the results. The Group Chair will inform the nominees of the results.

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*~~The senior senator is defined as the senator that has the most consecutive years of current service in Faculty Senate. (Prior terms in Senate are excluded.) In case of a tie in years of consecutive service, the senior senator will be determined by lot. The maximum number of consecutive terms that a senator may serve as the Senior Senator is two years. If the senior senator terms out after two years, but still remains in the senate, the senator with the next longest years of consecutive service will become the senior senator. In case of a tie in consecutive service, the senior senator will be determined by lot.~~

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ARTICLE V – TERM OF OFFICE OF ELECTED SENATORS

Section. 1.

The Faculty Senate year shall begin ~~immediately the day~~ following the last day of the ~~spring second semester (the day after final grades must be submitted) of an academic year and shall~~ end the last day of the ~~second-spring semester in~~ the next calendar year.

Section. 2.

The usual term of office for elected senators shall be 3 years. However, ~~when reapportionment makes it necessary,~~ the terms of some newly-elected senators ~~may be limited shall be~~ for 1, 2, or 3 years so that ~~the terms of an~~ approximately

equal number of senators from each faculty ~~electing-voting~~ group expire each ~~subsequent~~ year. No faculty member shall be elected to a Faculty Senate term which will result in more than ~~seven-six~~ consecutive years of service. The Chair of the Faculty Senate shall be responsible for implementing ~~this section~~ any reapportionment of newly elected senator terms in order to ensure that each voting group has experienced senators that can assist in onboarding newly elected senators.

Section 3.

Vacancies in the Faculty Senate created by the expiration of ~~members-senators~~ terms of office shall be filled ~~at the during the regular~~ annual elections. ~~Senators may run for re-election as long as their total consecutive term in senate is not longer than six years.~~

Section 4.

In the case of the death, resignation ~~from NMSU~~, or retirement of a ~~member of the Faculty Senate senator~~, a successor shall be elected to fill out the unexpired term at a special election called for that purpose. The provisions of Article IV, Section 3, shall apply to such elections.

Section 5.

In the case that a senator ~~should lose~~ eligibility to serve or ~~should resign~~ as senator, a successor shall be elected to fill out the unexpired term at a special election called for that purpose. The provisions of Article IV, Section 3, shall apply to such elections. ~~the senior senator of the former senator's voting group shall ensure an election of a new senator for the remainder of the term.~~

Section 6.

In the case of a leave of absence of a senator, the incumbent senator shall appoint a temporary replacement who shall serve until the end of the academic year, until the incumbent senator returns from leave, or until the incumbent senator's term of office expires, whichever comes first. ~~Should the incumbent senator be incapacitated and unable to appoint a replacement, the senior senator of the incumbent's voting group shall appoint a replacement.~~

ARTICLE VI – OFFICERS

~~Section 1.~~

~~The senate representative groups are representatives from:~~

- ~~10. The tenured and tenure track faculty from Alamogordo Campus, Dona Ana CC, and Grants Campus~~
- ~~11. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the University Library~~
- ~~12. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences;~~
- ~~13. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the Cooperative Extension Service~~
- ~~14. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences;~~
- ~~15. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Business;~~
- ~~16. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Engineering;~~
- ~~17. The tenured and tenure track faculty from the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation~~
- ~~18. The non-tenure track faculty of Alamogordo Campus, Dona Ana CC, Grants campus, Las Cruces Campus, including from the Cooperative Extension Service and the University Library~~

Section 1, 2.

The officers of the Faculty Senate shall be a Chair, ~~a~~ Vice Chair, a Parliamentarian, and a Recording Secretary. The Senate Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected members of the Faculty Senate, representing different senate voting groups. The 1 year terms of the Senate Chair and Vice Chair shall begin the day following the last day of the spring semester (the day after final grades must be submitted) and shall end the last day of the spring semester in the next calendar year. ~~on the first day following the end of the spring semester and end on the last day of the following spring semester. The Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair shall not serve more than two consecutive terms, or more than two non-consecutive terms in each respective position within a six year time period. The Vice Chair may run for, and serve as~~

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~~Faculty Senate Chair for two consecutive terms, but may serve as Faculty Senate Chair again after serving at least one year as a non-chairing senator. The Chair of the Faculty Senate will only exercise their right to vote on senate propositions in order to break a tie.~~

Section 2.

~~The Parliamentarian and the Recording Secretary shall be appointed by the Senate Chair with the approval of the Faculty Senate, a staff member reporting to the Provost's Office. The Provost's office will allocate 80% of the staff member's allocation of effort to serve as the Recording Secretary for Faculty Senate. Attendance of the Recording Secretary at Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate Leadership Committee meetings will take priority over other duties. The Faculty Senate Chair will participate in the annual evaluation for the Recording Secretary. The Senate Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected members of the Faculty Senate, representing different senate electing groups. The Recording Secretary shall be a staff member, and~~

Section 3.

~~The Parliamentarian shall be a volunteer faculty member that is not a member of the Faculty Senate, both of whom have non-voting status. The Parliamentarian shall have in-depth knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order, and will be expected to attend all Faculty Senate meetings. The Parliamentarian will be nominated by the Faculty Senate Chair, and acceptance of the nominee will be by majority vote of Faculty Senate during the first Faculty Senate meeting of the Fall semester.~~

Section 4.3.

~~The current Faculty Senate Chair will appoint the Recording Secretary will to oversee the election of the incoming Faculty Senate Chair. The Faculty Senate shall elect two nominees for the position of Chair. At the December Faculty Senate meeting, nominations for the next Faculty Senate Chair will open, one of whom may be the current Faculty Senate Chair. The nominees must be current, elected members of the senate at the time of nomination and must intend to continue as active (nonretired) faculty during the following academic year. The current Faculty Senate Chair may run for reelection as long as they are not currently in their second consecutive term as Chair, and their term as an elected member of the senate does not expire before the following academic year. No fewer than two and no more than four nominees will be approved as candidates for the Chair position.~~

~~The current Faculty Senate Chair shall be considered to be a current, elected member of the senate even if their original senate term has expired.~~

Section 5.

~~Within sixty (60) calendar days of these nominations, During the month of January the Recording Secretary shall create a secure electronic ballot that includes the names and bios of the nominees for Chair, and notify All faculty as defined in Article I of its availability of will be notified of the election which shall remain open for a period of two weeks. The Recording Secretary will be responsible for tabulating the results and announcing the winner. The winner of the election, until assuming the office of the chair, will be designated the chair-elect. The chair-elect shall not be from the same senate voting electing group as the current Chair (except when the current Chair is re-elected). If the Chair Elect is a standing senator at the time they assume the position, the voting group in which the chair-elect is a member of representative election group shall elect a replacement. Should the Chair become unable to perform their duties, the Vice Chair shall fulfill the remainder of the Chair's term of office.~~

Section 4.

~~At the beginning of the last meeting of the senate year, the elected senators for the next year from each senate representative group shall caucus and elect their members to the Senate Leadership Committee. The Senate Leadership Committee shall then caucus and elect its Chair, who will also be Vice Chair of the Senate. These actions shall be reported in the minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting. Should the office of Vice Chair become vacant, the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall call a special meeting of the Senate Leadership Committee to elect a new Chair of the Senate Leadership Committee.~~

ARTICLE VII – COMMITTEES

Section 1.

The standing committees of the Faculty Senate shall be the Senate Leadership Committee, Budget and Resources Committee, ~~University Planning- Faculty Success~~ Committee, Curriculum and Programming Committee, Research and Creative Activity Committee, Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee, ~~and Student Success Committee, and Government Relations Committee.~~

Section 2.

The membership of the standing committees shall be as follows:

1. Senate Leadership Committee (SLC): The Senate Leadership Committee shall consist of ~~the Faculty Senate Chair, the Faculty Senate Vice Chair (who will serve as Chair of the SLC), one senator member from each of the 9 representative groups senate electing group for each five elected senators or major fraction thereof. Each electing group shall have at least one member regardless of its senate representation., and the chairs of each of the seven standing committees.~~ Vacancies shall be filled by ~~the elected senators, from within the senate electing appropriate representative groups, or the standing committees. The six standing committee Chairs will serve as members.~~
2. Committees on Budget and Resources, ~~University Planning~~ Faculty Success, Curriculum and Programming, Research and Creative Activity, Diversity Equity and Inclusion, ~~and Student Success, and Government Relations~~: Each committee shall consist of ~~at least 11 no fewer than 8~~ voting members ~~(including the chair) as assigned from the elected senators by the Senate Leadership Committee. Senators not employed located on the Las Cruces main campus will be provided with a Zoom option should meetings be held in person, need not be counted in the determination of a quorum.~~ Each elected senator shall serve on one, and no more than one, of these ~~seven six~~ committees, ~~with the exception of The Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair are excluded from serving on these committees, the Chair of the Senate Leadership Committee, who need only serve on that committee. Each committee shall elect a Chair at its first meeting.~~
3. Committee of the Whole: The Faculty Senate by majority vote may convene as a Committee of the Whole to discuss and shape possible legislation pertaining to a particular issue. While sitting as a Committee of the Whole, the Faculty Senate may not pass new resolutions.

Section 3.

~~A term of C~~committee membership ~~terms~~ shall be ~~for the duration of the academic 4-year. Senators Members may request to serve more than one term on the same committee for more than one term with no maximum term restrictions. However it is encouraged that Senators consider serving on different standing committees during their senate terms in order to diversify their faculty senate experience.~~

Section 4.

~~In advance of the last senate meeting of the year (May) each of the newly elected and continuing senators will provide to the Recording Secretary their first and second choice of standing committee on which they wish to serve. The Recording Secretary with the assistance of the Faculty Senate Chair and chair-elect will populate each of the seven Standing Committees. The Recording Secretary, Faculty Senate Chair, and chair elect will assist each of the standing committees tp caucus, nominate (and if more than one senator is nominated, take a vote) and select a chair for the committee. The newly elected chairs will report the result to the Recording Secretary.~~

Section 5.

~~In advance of the At the beginning of the last senate meeting of the senate year (May) each of the newly elected and continuing senators will convene together in each of the 9 representative groups as defined in Article IV Section 2, from each senate representative group shall Each representative group shall caucus and _ elect one of their their representative group members to serve on the Senate Leadership Committee. The Recording Secretary, Faculty Senate Chair, and chair elect will assist in coordinating caucusing of each of the 9 representative groups. The senators newly elected to serve on the Senate Leadership Committee will report the result to the Recording Secretary.~~

Section 6.

At the beginning of the last meeting of the senate year (May), the members of the Senate Leadership Committee (SLC) (chairs of each of the seven standing committees and senators elected from each of the nine representative groups) elected senators for the next year from each senate representative group will convene into their Representative Groups as defined in Article IV Section 1. Each senate representative group shall caucus and elect one of their members to serve on the Faculty Senate Leadership Committee. The Senate Leadership Committee shall then caucus and elect a chair of the SLC, who will then also serve as its Chair, who will also be Vice Chair of the Senate. These actions shall be reported in the minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting. Should the office of Vice Chair become vacant, the Chair of the Faculty Senate shall call a special meeting of the Senate Leadership Committee to elect a new Chair of the Senate Leadership Committee.

Section 7.

The results of the elections conducted in sections 4, 5, and 6 above shall be reported in the minutes of the last Faculty Senate meeting.

ARTICLE VIII – MEETINGS

Section 1.

Meetings of the Faculty Senate shall take place no less frequently than once a month during the academic year (fall and spring semesters), but only on a special meeting basis during the summer ~~sessions~~ semesters. A simple majority of the voting members of the Faculty Senate shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2.

The time and place of each regular senate meeting shall be determined in discussions between the Chair, the Vice Chair, and the Recording Secretary. Meetings (administered in person and virtually) shall be simulcast through appropriate, secure electronic media, ensuring equitable accessibility to all attendees. Senators shall be marked present and will be afforded full rights of participation whether they attend in-person or via electronic media.

Section 3.

The Chair of the Senate or, in the absence of the Senate Chair, the Vice Chair, may call special meetings at any time. A special meeting shall be limited to the consideration of the specific items of business designated in the call for the meeting. Special meetings shall abide by the regular rules of the Faculty Senate.

Section 4.

Ex-officio members shall have the right to attend and participate by voice without vote in all meetings of the Faculty Senate and its standing committees. Any member of the university community may attend regular meetings of the Faculty Senate ~~and its committees~~ and, by invitation, may participate in the discussions, and deliberations. Members of the university community who are not Faculty Senators or Ex officio members of Faculty Senate are only permitted to attend and participate in Standing Committee meetings by invitation.

Section 5.

A simple majority of the voting members of the Faculty Senate shall constitute a quorum.

Section. 5 6.

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern the parliamentary procedures of the Faculty Senate in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the current Constitution and ~~any B~~bylaws of the Faculty Senate. ~~-may adopt.~~

Section.6 7.

The Chair ~~officers~~ of the Senate shall make arrangements for regular senate ~~its~~ meetings. The Recording Secretary will send a notice of the meeting and ~~an agenda~~ to each member of the Faculty Senate.

Section 7

The Chair of the Senate Leadership Committee shall make arrangements for monthly SLC meetings. The Recording Secretary will send a notice of the meeting to each member of the SLC. Agendas and supporting documents for regular senate and SLC meetings will be posted on the Faculty Senate Website by the Recording Secretary. A simple majority of the voting members of the Faculty Senate Leadership Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section. 8.

Chairs of each of the seven standing committees shall be responsible for coordinating standing committee meetings. A simple majority of the voting members of the each of the standing committees shall constitute a quorum.

~~Faculty electing groups represented by a senator not located on the main campus may send an elected alternate, with notice to the Recording Secretary, to substitute for that representative at meetings of the Faculty Senate and its committees, and this alternate is given full participation and voting rights.~~

ARTICLE IX – PROPOSITIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Section. 1.

Propositions to be considered by the Faculty Senate shall be presented initially to the Senate Leadership Committee by one or more voting or nonvoting senators; the primary sponsor must be a faculty senator. First-time propositions will not be sponsored or presented in the name of standing or ad hoc committees.

Section. 2.

Each proposition shall be prepared in writing by the sponsoring senator(s). Propositions shall be keyed to affected portions of the *New Mexico State University Regents Policy Manual* and *ARP*. At least two days prior to the time of presentation, the primary sponsor shall submit the proposition to the chair of the Senate Leadership Committee. It is the responsibility of the SLC chair to distribute copies to members of the Senate Leadership Committee. The distribution may be done electronically.

Section. 3.

Normally, a proposition shall be given first reading and a brief explanation by the sponsoring senator(s) at the SLC meeting. The Chair of the SLC, ~~and then referred assigns the proposition~~ to the appropriate standing committee(s) by the Vice Chair of the Senate during the Senate Leadership Committee during the meeting in which the proposition is first presented. A challenge to the referral to committee may be made by any senator present at the SLC meeting. The decision on the Committee or Committees to which referral shall be made will then be by majority vote of the SLC members ~~senators~~ present. In exceptional cases, a proposition may be considered by the Faculty Senate as emergency legislation without referral to a ~~its~~ committees, provided either:

- (a) previous notice and an outline of the nature of the proposition was given in the agenda of the meeting and the senate accepts consideration of the proposition by a two-thirds vote, or
- (b) lacking previous notice, the Senate accepts consideration of the proposition by a three-fourths vote.

Section. 4.

Committees shall hold hearings on all propositions referred to them. ~~These hearings shall be open to the public so that all individuals interested in propositions may make presentations to the committee.~~ The decision as to the nature of a committee's report on each proposition shall be by majority vote of the committee. The committee may ask for one

additional month of consideration. Commentary for and against the proposition may be submitted with the report. Propositions shall be reported out with one of three recommendations to the senate: RECOMMEND FOR PASSAGE (with or without amendments); RECOMMEND AGAINST PASSAGE; or RECOMMEND FOR FULL SENATE DISCUSSION. ~~No recording of the committee members votes for, against, or abstain are required.~~

Section. 5.

Propositions shall be reported out by the ~~chair of the standing committees~~ and forwarded to the recording secretary of the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate Chair prior to the next Faculty Senate meeting. A committee shall be given additional time when its Chair, prior to the ~~at next regular Faculty Senate~~ meeting, notifies the ~~Recording Secretary of the Faculty Senate~~ and the Faculty Senate Chair that additional time is needed. In no case, ~~however,~~ shall committee deliberation of a proposition extend beyond ~~a second meeting of that same standing committee, the second regular Faculty Senate meeting following first reading of the proposition.~~ The recording secretary shall be responsible for informing the Faculty Senate Chair of any violations of this provision that may occur.

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Section. 6.

Legislation reported out of committee shall be placed on the Faculty Senate agenda for full consideration in any of three possible circumstances:

- If the committee recommends for passage (with or without amendment),
- If the committee recommends against passage but the Faculty Senate, after debate, votes for full consideration, or
- If the committee recommends for full Faculty Senate discussion: in this case, after Faculty Senate debate, the proposition may be referred to a committee for further consideration.

In the case, where the committee recommends ~~ed~~ no passage, and ~~the~~ committee's report is accepted ~~by a vote of the senate~~, the proposition is considered defeated. The legislation shall also be considered defeated if it does not receive full Faculty Senate consideration. When the unfinished business portion of the agenda is reached, each of the items that have been voted for full Faculty Senate consideration shall be moved for adoption and will thus be subject to debate, amendment, and normal parliamentary procedures. However, when a committee recommends for full senate discussion, such legislation may be voted on by the full senate, or referred back to a committee for further discussion.

ARTICLE X – AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONSTITUTION

Section. 1.

Amendments to this Constitution shall be initiated as propositions and shall ~~initially~~ follow the procedures of Article IX. ~~[Adoption] and amendment of the constitution shall be by a simple majority vote of the Faculty Senate. Presentation of proposed bylaws or amendments thereof shall follow the procedure for presentation of proposals detailed in Article IX of this Constitution.~~

~~Upon passage by the Faculty Senate and under the oversight of the Faculty Senate Vice Chair, amendments shall be posted electronically to the Faculty Senate website and notification of the posting sent to all faculty who are qualified to vote or, at the discretion of the Faculty Senate Chair and with the concurrence of the Faculty Senate as a whole, duplicated and distributed to all members of the faculty who are qualified to vote.~~

Commented [GF16]: Could changes to the Constitution be streamlined by the same process used to change Bylaws? (i.e. vote from Faculty Senate to approve changes, and not require a vote from ALL faculty?)

Section. 2.

~~Such proposed amendments shall be considered as adopted when approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the qualified members of the faculty who vote. Such voting shall be by a secure electronic method.~~

Section. 3.

~~This Constitution may also be amended by an initiative and referendum election. Such an initiative shall specify the amendment(s) to be made and shall require the signatures of 10 percent of the faculty as defined in Article I. Verification of the signatures upon the initiative shall be by the officers of the Faculty Senate. Upon verification, such amendments shall be submitted directly to the faculty without prior approval of the Faculty Senate. The amendment(s) shall be considered as adopted when approved by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the qualified members of the faculty who vote.~~

Article XI – BYLAWS

Section. 1.

All procedural decisions and guidelines adopted by the Faculty Senate to implement its Constitution shall be appended to that document in an addendum to be labeled “Bylaws.”

Section. 2.

Adoption and amendment of bylaws shall be by a simple majority vote of the Faculty Senate. Presentation of proposed bylaws or amendments thereof shall follow the procedure for presentation of proposals detailed in Article IX of this Constitution.