CHANGES TO THE SENATE BYLAWS

All amendments and revisions have been included in the text of these revised Bylaws.

April 1971  Proposed Bylaws presented to University Senate.

October 29, 1973  Interim Bylaws for the Faculty Senate Approved for a two-year period.

November 3, 1975  Bylaws officially accepted (seven changes).


April 14, 1978  Amendment 2. Articles throughout. Terms of office for Senators, officers, and committees moved to the close of the regular Summer Quarter meeting of the Senate.

October 1, 1979  Amendment 3. Changes in committee size: Athletics, Executive, Faculty Affairs, Student Affairs.

January 14, 1980  Amendment 4. Time of election of Senators, qualifications and role of President-Elect, added charge to Nominating Committee.

February 18, 1980  Amendment 5. Articles throughout. Apportionment changed, added charge for Faculty Affairs Committee, Legislative Committee and Rhodes Committee added, conditions for appointment of proxies extended.


December 1, 1980  Amendment 7. Revise membership of Educational Policy Committee, delete Public Service Council.


February 15, 1982  Amendment 9. Revise membership of Educational Policy Committee, added charge for Faculty Affairs Committee, and Executive Committee Chairperson. Revisions in Articles IV and V.
February 14, 1983  Amendment 10. Articles throughout. Addition of continuing part-time faculty to Elected Faculty Members, addition of immediate Past President to apportionment, revision of Executive Committee membership, and deletion of University Councilors from Nominating Committee, deletion of entire section on representation to the University Council.

May 30, 1983  Amendment 11. Revisions throughout. Revision of ex-officio members to the Faculty Senate and chairpersons to the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils.

May 21, 1984  Amendment 12. Revisions throughout. Addition of the Provost, each Vice Provost, the Vice Chancellor for Business, Planning and Finance and the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs as voting ex-officio voting members of the Senate.

July 15, 1985  Amendment 13. Revisions throughout. Graduate and Undergraduate Councils to report once a quarter through the Education Policy Committee; Vice Provosts to chair the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils; International Education Committee changed to function by the calendar year; membership revisions to Educational Policy, Executive, Athletics, and Professional Development committees; and modification of charge to Faculty and Staff Benefits Committee.

March 10, 1986  Amendment 14. Revision to sections concerning membership of the Undergraduate and Graduate Councils.


June 26, 1989  Editorial changes due to semester change and the addition of the Teaching Council.

July 13, 1989  Changes to student representation on Senate committees. Revising the names of student government organizations.

March 4, 1991  Article II, section 3 – changes in Senate meeting times.

Article III, A. – changes in descriptions of the composition, duties and charge of the Athletics Committee.
Article III, F. – changes in composition of the Executive Committee.

Article III, G. – deletion of administrators from the Faculty Affairs Committee.

Article IV, section 2 – Revision of policy on presidential succession.

Editorial changes in impose consistency throughout on use of capital letters in titles.

October 14, 1991

Article III, Section 2, F. – selection of representatives to THEFA.

Article II, Section 1. B.; Article II, Section 2.; Article II, Section 9; Article II, Section 10; Article III, Section I.; Article III, Section 2. I.; Other changes caused by change of schedule due to deletion of summer meeting.

September 20, 1993

Changes expediting curricular review of certain kinds of curricular changes.

April 4, 1994

Changes approved.

October 4, 1994

Article III, Section 2, E1 – addition of responsibilities to the Education Policy Committee.

Article III, Section 2, E2 – addition of ex-officio representation to the Undergraduate Council.

Article III, Section I – change in term of office to the International Education Committee.

Article III, Section E, K, M, N, O – changes of committee membership to reflect current administrative structure.

Article II, Section 3 – addition of regularly schedule January meeting; replaced working: terms with semesters.

February 25, 1995

Article II, Section 2 – changes in Elections, Nominations, and Vacancies and Proxies.

Article III, Section F – changes in Executive Committee and creation of Executive Council.
Section 8 – changes in the election of Committee of Committees.

August 8, 1996

Article II, Section 3 – Deletion of second paragraph under Meetings.

Article III, Section 2 – Deletions and additions in the composition of the Athletics, Budget, and Development and Alumni Relations Committees.

June 8, 1998

Article II, Section 2 – Additions concerning the procedures for Senators to place items on the Senate Agenda.

Article III, Section 2.P – Delete reference to the Learning Research Center since it no longer exists.

Article IV, Section 1 – Additions under “The President.”

April 5, 1999

Article III, Section 2 – Replace Teaching Council Bylaws.

April 3, 2000

Article III, Section 2, F (1) Deletion of Reference to THEFA.

Article III, Section 2 F (1) Revision of Membership paragraph for Executive Committee to read: “Membership shall consist of the chairs of the Standing Committees of the Senate; the officers of the Senate, including the Immediate Past President; and four at-large faculty members.

Deletion of References to “Chancellor” throughout.

Distinction between “election” and “appointment” when referring to committee members.

April 2, 2001

extensive changes – see committee report at: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/BylawsRevisions 3-01.pdf

May 7, 2001

extensive changes – see committee report at: http://web.utk.edu/~senate/BylawsRevisions4-01.pdf

April 1, 2002

Article III, Section 3(e) Standing and Special Committees – (1) Graduate Council and (2) Undergraduate Council – Chairs of both bodies to be faculty members elected by the voting members of the body.
Article II, Section 10 and Article IV, Section 5: - change name of “webmaster” to “Senate Information Officer”

Article III, Section 3, F – establish the chief officer for business and finance as member of the Executive Committee

April 29, 2002

Article II, Section 1 – the chief executive officer of the University (President) shall be an ex-officio member of the Senate.

August 16, 2002

Grammatical Revisions not requiring Senate approval;
Article II, Section 10: correct spelling of “regarding”; 4. Article III, Section 3, A: delete “and” after Director of Student Recreation; Article III, Section 3, A: add a period after the word “Student Senate”; Article III, Section 3, E (1): delete last sentence “The Council shall report….” As redundant; Check to make sure chronological history of By-Laws revisions are up to date.

October 21, 2002

Article II, Section 1, B (1): Change the first sentence to read: “Elective seats shall be apportioned in January of each year among the respective colleges and units by the clerical secretary of the Faculty Senate under the supervision of the Chair of the Committee of Nominations and Appointments.”

Article III, Section 2: replace “Secretary” with “clerical secretary of the Faculty Senate”;

Article II, Section 1, B, (1): Delete “as of April 2001” from first Sentence;

Article II, Section 1, B, (1): Delete “Human Ecology” and “Information Sciences” and use new combined college names “Education, Health and Human Sciences” and “Communications and Information Sciences” instead;

Article II, Section 8: allow 4 nominees from the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences to be considered for election to two positions on the Committee on Committees;

Article III, Section 2: insert “two Senators from the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences”;
March 3, 2003

Article II, Section 1 – adding the category of alternate members;

Article III, Section 3, A – inserting the following sentence: “The Committee will also include the following non-voting ex-officio members: the Director of the Thornton Advising Center, the Associate Director of Women’s Athletics Compliance, the Associate Director of Men’s Athletics Compliance.”

Article III, Section 3, J – Changing the name of the Legislative Committee to Government Relations Committee and changing the charge of the committee to include “government entities at the local, state, and national levels.”

April 28, 2003

Article I, Section 1(B) – change term limits for Senators; add new section (1) Duties of Faculty Senator; renumber other section accordingly

Article II, Section 2. Nominations. Changes in timetable of election process; specifies the elections administered by Senate President.

Article III, Section 8 – Delete old section (specifying process of election of Committee on Committees); NEW SECTION creating College or Division Caucuses

Article III, Section 2 – change membership for Committee on Nominations and Appointments (replaces Committee on Committees throughout); expands duties of this committee.

Article III, Section 3 C – Delete Bylaws Committee – duties assigned to Executive Committee. Paragraphs in this section renumbered and rearranged to restore alphabetical listing of committees.

Article III, Section 3 E (new numbering) – duties of Bylaws Committee assigned to Executive Committee
April 5, 2004

Article III, Section 3, extensive changes (see minutes) with the addition of the Appeals Committee and the Information Technology Committee; changing the membership and charges of the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Student Affairs Committee, the Educational Policy Committee, the Professional Development Committee; changing the membership of the Executive Committee; and deleting the Instruction with Technology Sub-Committee, the Development and Alumni Relations Committee, the Government Relations Committee, and the International Education Committee.

March 7, 2005

Article II, Section 2, Nominations changes responsibilities from President to President-Elect. Article II, Section 10, date change from August to July. Article III, Section 2, changed responsibilities from President to President-Elect. Article III, Section 3, Article C. changes to Budget adding and Planning Committee as well as membership. Section 3 Article D. eliminated. Article G. addition of Ex-officio member, Director of the Center for International Education. Article O. addition of Director of the Center for International Education, additional duties cover: study abroad.

August 27, 2007

Article III, Section 3 J: duties of Nominating Committee amended to include nomination of two candidates as faculty representatives to the University Faculty Council every third academic year.

Article III, Section 3 M: Student Affairs Committee renamed as the “Student Concerns Committee;” eligibility requirements for membership amended.

Article III, Section 3 O: Director of the Chancellor’s Honors Program added as an ex-officio (without vote) member of the Undergraduate Council.

Article IV, Section 6: Addition of the election of a representative elected by the Faculty Senate to serve a three-year term on the University Faculty Council.

March 24, 2008

Article III, Section 3 C: Changes to the composition and duties of the Budget and Planning Committee as indicated.
in the proposed amendment introduced January 28, 2008 and recorded in the minutes for that date.

March 23, 2009


Article III, Section 2, Subsection B, Paragraph 3. Change “…in tenure or promotion decisions, annual performance reviews, …” to “…in retention, tenure or promotion decisions; annual performance reviews; …”

Article III, section H. Change “Voting ex-officio members shall include the Dean of Libraries, …” to “Ex-officio members shall include the Dean of Libraries, the Executive Associate Dean of Libraries, …”

Article III, Section 2, Subsection K, Paragraph 3. Change “The Chair of the Undergraduate Council shall be a faculty member from the Undergraduate Council elected for a two-year term by voting members of the Undergraduate Council” to “The Chair of the Undergraduate Council shall be a faculty member from the Undergraduate Council, elected to a one-year term, following a one-year term as Vice Chair, by voting members of the Undergraduate Council.”

April 20, 2009

Article I, Section 3 – New section added.

Article II, Section 4. At the end of the section, added sentence: “Once a quorum is achieved at a meeting of the Faculty Senate, it cannot be lost before the meeting is adjourned.”

Article III, Section 1, Paragraph 2. At the end of the paragraph, add “Unless otherwise specified below, ex-officio members of committees shall be nonvoting members. Except for the President of the Senate, term of office for all officers, committee chairs and committee members shall be from August 1 to July 31.”

Article III, Section 2, Subsection G, Paragraph 4. Change “…agenda and minutes …” to “…agenda, a summary of substantive actions take and the minutes ….”
Article III, Section 2, Subsection K, Paragraph 4. Change “…agenda and minutes …” to “agenda, a summary of the substantive actions taken and the minutes …”

Article III, Section 4. Changed to “In the event of a vacancy in the faculty membership of any committee, the vacancy shall be filled by action of the Executive Council.”

March 1, 2010

Article II, Section 10 Election of Officers. Change “prior service as an elected faculty member of the Faculty Senate within the last five years” to “prior service on the Faculty Senate (as an administrative member, an elected Faculty member or a committee, council, or task force member, or in another elected or appointed capacity) within the last five years.”

March 7, 2011

“Housekeeping” changes to the Bylaws. Changing names or titles to reflect current practices.

Correction of numerous references to Faculty Senate Executive Committee – changes to Faculty Senate Executive Council.

Article III, Section 2, Standing Committees/M. UT Athletics now reports to the UTK campus not the System.

Article II, Section 2, Standing Committees/H. Added to Graduate Council a statement of the duties of that body.

Removed “Changes to the Senate Bylaws” with stipulation that these would be kept in a separate document for historical reference.

Article II, Section B.2 – Changed Agricultural Extension Service to UT Extension.

Article II, Section 10. President-Elect eligibility criteria changed. This was approved March 1, 2010 and never changed in the bylaws.

Article III, Section 5 to include a written report submitted at the end of the academic year.

Article IV, Section 2. Change to remove the President-Elect as editor of the Faculty Senate Newsletter, and to make the President-Elect the chair of the Nominations and
Appointments Committee. Resultant change to section 5 to make the information officer the editor of the Faculty Senate Newsletter.

May 2, 2011

Article II, section 1A. Administrative Members. Changed from elected to appointed by chief Academic Officer of the Knoxville campus.

Article II, section 5. Voting. Deleted everything after the first two sentences.

Article III, section 2B. Appeals Committee. Deleted the second and third paragraphs in section and added new paragraph to reflect more accurately the information contained in the Faculty Handbook and Manual for Faculty Evaluation.

Article V. Amendments. Added the following: All changes to these Bylaws shall be documented and placed on the Faculty Senate website at a location proximate to these Bylaws in a document titled “Chronology of Amendments and Revisions to Faculty Senate Bylaws, 1971-Present.”

March 5, 2012

Article IV, section 6. University Faculty Council Representative. Replaced second paragraph concerning how to replace a representative who is unable to complete term of office.

May, 7, 2012

Article III, section 2. C. Athletics Committee. List of ex-officio members was updated.

Article III, section 2. J. Research Council. List of ex-officio members was updated and later references to these members were changed accordingly. Changed the requirement that a person must have served a year on the council prior to “appointment as” chairperson; a person must now have served a year before “assuming the position of” chairperson. Inserted “scholarship” in to the phrase “research, scholarship, and other creative activity.” Replaced “advertisement” with “media releases.”

April 8, 2013

Article III, section 3. Replacing “the third Monday in January” with the second Monday in January”, with said change to be effective July 1, 2013.
May 6, 2013

Article II, section 2. (1) re-designating the current subsections J through M as subsections K through N, and (2) inserting the following text as a new subsection J:

J. Non-Tenure-Track Issues Committee. Membership shall consist of seven faculty members, four of whom shall be non-tenure track and three of whom shall be tenure-track. The chairperson shall be a non-tenure-track faculty. Ideally, many different caucuses would be represented in order to reflect the varied voices of this group across the campus. In years when there are not enough non-tenure-track faculty on the Senate to fill the four spots on the committee, the chairperson may ask non-senate members to be on the committee. The Non-Tenure-Track Issues Committee shall concern itself with policies and issues regarding non-tenure-track faculty, including, but not limited to, the development and refinement of criteria and procedures for non-tenure-track faculty appointment, compensation, benefits, promotion, retention, evaluation, shared governance, retirement, and termination. The Non-Tenure-Track Issues Committee is responsible for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the Faculty Handbook that affect non-tenure-track faculty in accordance with the amendments and procedures set forth in the Faculty Handbook, as well as for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes that affect non-tenure-track faculty to the Manual for Faculty Evaluation in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the Manual for Faculty Evaluation. In order to ensure representation of non-tenure-track faculty interests, the Non-Tenure-Track Issues Committee will work with other committees such as, but not limited to, the Faculty Affairs Committee and the Benefits and Professional Development Committee.

September 15, 2014

Article IV, Section 5. Communication Officer. There shall be a Communication Officer nominated by the Executive Council subject to approval of the Faculty Senate membership to serve a one-year term. The Communication Officer shall manage disseminating information maintain Faculty Senate archives, oversee the Faculty Senate website, and foster two-way communication. The Communication Officer shall be an administrator (along with the President) of the Faculty Info and Faculty Senate listservs. The Communication Officer shall be responsible for assessing the effectiveness of Senate communications and keeping abreast of such developments in
communication technology as might be useful for the Senate.

September 15, 2014

Article II, section 1. (1) re-designating the current sub-sections D through E as sub-sections E through F, and (2) inserting the following text as a new sub-section D:

D. Student Body President. The Student Government Association (SGA) shall be represented on the Faculty Senate by the Student Body President. The Student Body President shall be an ex officio, non-voting member of the Faculty Senate. In the event that the Student Body President cannot attend a regular senate meeting, she/he will appoint a student designee from the SGA. The Student Body President shall be permitted to provide a report to the Faculty Senate at the request of the Faculty Senate President.

October 20, 2014

Article III, Section 2, Part J. [now Part K] Research Council. Membership shall consist of at least 12 appointed faculty or faculty/administrator representatives. In addition, there shall be three graduate students selected by the Graduate Student Senate. Ex-officio members shall include the Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement, the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement, the Dean of Libraries (or designee), Associate Deans for Research or equivalents (or designees), the Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer (or designee) of the Office of Information Technology, and up to two addition designees. The composition of the Research Council shall reflect balance among externally funded and institutionally supported research, between research and other creative activity, and among disciplines. Members must be actively engaged in research or other creative activity and must (1) hold full-time or continuing part-time appointment with the rank of lecturer, clinical instructor, assistant professor or higher; and (2) perform academic duties consisting of at least half-time teaching, research, or service. To serve as Chair of the Research Council, an individual must have served at least one year on the Research Council prior to assuming the position. The immediate past Chair of the Research Council will serve as an ex-officio member of the Council for the next academic year.
The Research Council acts as an advisory body to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement. The Research Council shall promote excellence in research, scholarship, and other creative activity through the study and recommendation of policies. The Research Council shall initiate and support efforts to communicate an understanding of and appreciation for research, scholarship, and other creative activity to the campus community and the community at large. The Research Council co-administers some programs of the Office of Research and Engagement, as requested by the Vice Chancellor or the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement. Areas of concern include research incentives and support, intradisciplinary and interdisciplinary research activities, compliance with state, federal and university regulations governing the conduct of research, rights to and commercialization of intellectual property, the broad range of research infrastructure including all forms of telecommunications and computational support, and other research-related resources. The Research Council conducts the initial phase of the periodic review of University research centers and units. Further, the Research Council shall concern itself with the institutional policy on research grants and funding, with copyright and patent policy, with protection of investigators, with the protection of human subjects of research, with the protection of experimental animals, and with policies affecting compliance of research activities with environmental and occupational health and safety requirements. The Research Council shall also encourage publications and the development of specialized research facilities for intercollegiate and/or interdisciplinary uses in accordance with any other policies pertaining to research programs. The Research Council shall furthermore encourage media releases of research successes of UTK, UTIA, and UTSI researchers. When appropriate, the Research Council shall report its actions for approval to the Faculty Senate.

March 7, 2016

Article III. Councils and Committees. Section 2. Standing Councils and Committees. The standing councils and committees of the Faculty Senate are listed and described below.

H. Graduate Council. Membership shall consist of faculty representatives chosen for three-year terms from the schools and colleges of the university engaged in
graduate work and two graduate students appointed by the Graduate Student Senate. Members shall be chosen in the spring term for terms to commence at the start of the next fall term.

Representatives shall be apportioned among the schools and colleges according to the number of graduate students enrolled in the college or school in the previous fall term, using the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graduate Students</th>
<th>Total Graduate Council</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 – 300</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>301 – 500</td>
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<td>1301 – 1500</td>
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<td>1501 – 1700</td>
<td>8</td>
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</table>

Representatives must regularly teach graduate courses or supervise graduate study and must (1) hold full-time or continuing part-time appointment with the rank of assistant professor or higher and (2) perform academic duties consisting of at least half-time teaching, research, service or departmental administration. Ex-officio members shall be the Dean of Libraries, a representative of Outreach and Continuing Education, the Director of the Center for International Education, and the chairperson of the Research Council, or their respective designees. In addition, the administrative officer having primary responsibility for graduate curriculum in each college or school shall serve as ex-officio member of the Graduate Council if that person is not a college or school representative. The chairperson of the Graduate Council (known as the Chair) is a faculty member from the Graduate Council who serves for a one-year term, following a one-year term as Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect.

The Graduate Council is charged by the Faculty Senate to set standards for graduate admission, retention, and graduation; assess curricular revisions and new proposals for graduate programs; evaluate interdisciplinary, intercollegiate and international programs; approve individuals to direct doctoral dissertations; and consider
new initiatives and other matters of policy pertaining to graduate programs. Its structure and activities are governed by its Bylaws, which are adopted and amended by the membership of the Graduate Council and include rules consistent with these Bylaws.

The Chair of the Graduate Council or faculty designee shall report actions of the Graduate Council to the Executive Council. The report shall include the agenda and a summary of substantive actions taken. The report and the minutes of the Graduate Council meetings will be distributed or made available electronically to all senators at least five business days prior to the next Faculty Senate meeting. Implementation of actions taken by the Graduate Council occurs after approval of the report by the Faculty Senate. Any curricular change may be reopened for review and its implementation delayed upon vote of the Executive Council or the full Faculty Senate.

M. Undergraduate Council. Voting membership shall consist of representatives chosen for three-year terms from the schools and colleges of the university granting baccalaureate degrees, one member of the ROTC faculty, and four students designated by the Undergraduate Academic Council. Members shall be chosen in the spring term for terms to commence at the start of the next fall term. Representatives shall be apportioned among the baccalaureate degree-granting units according to the number of degrees granted during the prior academic year, using the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baccalaureate Degrees</th>
<th>Total Undergraduate Council</th>
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<td>1 – 300</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1701 – 1900</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In the College of Arts and Sciences, representatives shall be apportioned among the divisions of Social Sciences, Humanities, and Natural Sciences. Members must hold full-time or continuing part-time appointment with the
rank, or equivalent rank, of lecturer, clinical instructor, assistant professor or higher and (2) perform academic duties consisting of at least half-time teaching, research, service or departmental administration. Ex-officio members shall be the Assistant Provost for Enrollment Services, a representative of Outreach and Continuing Education, the Dean of Libraries, the Director of the Center for International Education, the Director of the Chancellor’s Honors Program, and the Director of the Tennessee Teaching and Learning Center, or their respective designees. In addition, the administrative officer having primary responsibility for undergraduate curriculum in each school or college shall serve as an ex-officio member of the Undergraduate Council if that person is not a school or college representative. The chairperson of the Undergraduate Council (known as the Chair) shall be a faculty member from the Undergraduate Council elected for a one-year term, following a one-year term as Vice Chair, by voting members of the Undergraduate Council. The election of the Chair will take place at the last meeting of the spring semester.

The Undergraduate Council is charged by the Faculty Senate to set standards for admission, retention, and graduation; review curricular matters in the undergraduate programs; development of interdisciplinary programs; approve new programs and any other matters of educational policy pertaining to undergraduate programs. Its structure and activities are governed by its Operating Guidelines, which are adopted and amended by the membership of the Undergraduate Council and include rules consistent with these Bylaws.

The Chair of the Undergraduate Council or faculty designee shall report actions of the Undergraduate Council to the Executive Council. The report shall include the agenda and a summary of substantive actions taken. The report and the minutes of the Undergraduate Council meetings will be distributed or made available electronically to all senators at least five business days prior to the next Faculty Senate meeting. Implementation of actions taken by the Undergraduate Council occurs after approval of the report by the Faculty Senate. Any curricular change may be reopened for review and its implementation delayed upon vote of the Executive Council or the full Faculty Senate.