

**Bylaws Updates –
Standing Councils and Committees
Election of Senators.**

Article 3, Section 2 Standing Councils and Committees

1. Committees with Proposed Bylaw Changes

- Athletics
- Benefits and Professional Development
- Budget and Planning
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Faculty Affairs
- Graduate Council
- Library and Information Technology Committee
- Non-tenure Track Faculty
- Research Council
- Undergraduate **Council**

Article 2, Section 2. Election of Senators.

Note on future changes:

Two committees considering more Substantive changes need additional time:

- **Teaching and learning (splitting out TL and awards)**
- **University Systems Relations (considering a better defined role)**

Two committees reported not needing changes at this time

- **Appeals – No changes at this time**
- **Committee on Nomination and Appointments**

Key – ~~Cross out means delete~~

Red font means add

Yellow font means discussion item

Athletics

- C. Athletics Committee. Membership shall consist of 12 faculty members appointed to two-year staggered terms. Ex-officio members shall include the chief campus administrative officer charged with academic affairs (or his or her designee), the Vice Chancellor and Director of Athletics (or his or her designee), ~~the Director of Women's Athletics~~ Senior Associate Athletics Director/Senior Woman Administrator, the faculty chairperson of the UT Athletics Board, the Director of Student Recreation, two student athletes appointed by the Athletics Department, and two students elected by the Student Senate. The Committee will also include the following non-voting ex-officio members: the Director of the Thornton Advising Center, and the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance.

This committee shall concern itself with academic aspects of intercollegiate athletics as well as the intramural athletics program. It may also concern itself with any other athletics matters that the committee deems appropriate and that lie within the purview of the Faculty Senate.

Original Language

- C. Athletics Committee. Membership shall consist of 12 faculty members appointed to two-year staggered terms. Ex-officio members shall include the chief campus administrative officer charged with academic affairs (or his or her designee), the Vice Chancellor and Director of Athletics (or his or her designee), the Director of Women's Athletics, the faculty chairperson of the UT Athletics Board, the Director of Student Recreation, two student athletes appointed by the Athletics Department, and two students elected by the Student Senate. The Committee will also include the following non-voting ex-officio members: the Director of the Thornton Advising Center, and the Associate Athletic Director for Compliance.

This committee shall concern itself with academic aspects of intercollegiate athletics as well as the intramural athletics program. It may also concern itself with any other athletics matters that the committee deems appropriate and that lie within the purview of the Faculty Senate.

Benefits & Professional Development (A. Lapins)

- D. Benefits and Professional Development Committee. Membership shall consist of 10 faculty members, and the chairperson of the Benefits and Professional Development Committee shall invite appropriate campus administrators to attend meetings as needed.

The responsibilities of the Benefits and Professional Development Committee shall include: (1) suggesting administrative actions that would permit and encourage professional development and monitoring and evaluating the resulting actions and programs; (2) initiating activities to facilitate the development of faculty members as professionals and monitoring and evaluating these activities and resulting programs; (3) developing a policy of professional leave (sabbatical leave) and monitoring the resulting program; ~~(4) enhancing and expanding international teaching and research opportunities for faculty and strengthening opportunities for participation of scholars and artists from outside the U.S.;~~ (4) examining, clarifying, and making recommendations to the Faculty Senate on issues and concern on retirement, leave, faculty welfare, insurance, and fringe benefits; (5) cooperating with task forces, councils, and committees addressing similar concerns on other higher education campuses in Tennessee; and (6) receiving representation from and providing representation to any other Faculty Senate, campus, or university task force, council, or committee addressing issues directly related to faculty and staff development or benefits. When appropriate, the Benefits and Professional Development Committee will cooperate with other Faculty Senate committees on base salary and other issues that are related to faculty benefits.

Changes

Our review of the bylaws regarding our committee led to more possible future action items than requested changes.

The opinion was expressed that item #4, "(4) enhancing and expanding international teaching and research opportunities for faculty and strengthening opportunities for participation of scholars and artists from outside the U.S.", seems like something of an "outlier" from the other duties, and certainly hasn't gotten any attention at all from the committee in the past three years, at least. Perhaps this is better suited to another committee?

Original Language

- D. Benefits and Professional Development Committee. Membership shall consist of 10 faculty members, and the chairperson of the Benefits and Professional Development Committee shall invite appropriate campus administrators to attend meetings as needed. The responsibilities of the Benefits and Professional Development Committee shall include: (1) suggesting administrative actions that would permit and encourage professional development and monitoring and evaluating the resulting actions and programs; (2) initiating activities to facilitate the development of faculty members as professionals and monitoring and evaluating these activities and resulting programs; (3) developing a policy of professional leave (sabbatical leave) and monitoring the resulting program; (4) enhancing and expanding international teaching and research opportunities for faculty and strengthening opportunities for participation of scholars and artists from outside the U.S.; (5) examining, clarifying, and making recommendations to the Faculty Senate on issues and concern on retirement, leave, faculty welfare, insurance, and fringe benefits; (6) cooperating with task forces, councils, and committees addressing similar concerns on other higher education campuses in Tennessee; and (7) receiving representation from and providing representation to any other Faculty Senate, campus, or university task force, council, or committee addressing issues directly related to faculty and staff development or benefits. When appropriate, the Benefits and Professional Development Committee will cooperate with other Faculty Senate committees on base salary and other issues that are related to faculty benefits.

Budget and Planning Committee

- E. Budget and Planning Committee. Membership shall consist of at least 10 faculty members. Ex-officio members shall include the chief financial officer for the campus.

The duties of the Budget and Planning Committee are: (1) to provide for campus-wide faculty input and expertise into the campus budgeting processes; ~~(2) to work with the University/System Relations Committee to monitor The University of Tennessee system budget; (3) to encourage the use of faculty expertise in budget matters; and (4) to inform the faculty, through the Faculty Senate, concerning budget matters.~~ (2) to inform the faculty, through the Faculty Senate, concerning budget matters; (3) to analyze and present budget and other related data as needed to bring to faculty attention (e.g., living wage analysis and faculty salary analyses); and (4) to work with other Faculty Senate committees on budget-related matters (e.g., the University/System Relations Committee to monitor The University of Tennessee system budget)

Both long-range and short-term aspects of its role will receive the committee's attention, including budget priorities, THEC formulas, and planning for projects of The University of Tennessee or other entities that may eventually result in changes to campus facilities. The committee shall invite appropriate campus administrators to attend meetings and provide overviews of their units' budgets as needed.

The primary concerns of the Budget and Planning Committee are policy and communication. The Budget and Planning Committee is not expected to become involved with, nor engaged in, comprehensive investigations necessary as a basis for budget decisions.

Original Language

- E. Budget and Planning Committee. Membership shall consist of at least 10 faculty members. Ex-officio members shall include the chief financial officer for the campus. The duties of the Budget and Planning Committee are: (1) to provide for campus- wide faculty input into the campus budgeting processes; (2) to work with the University/System Relations Committee to monitor The University of Tennessee system budget; (3) to encourage the use of faculty expertise in budget matters; and (4) to inform the faculty, through the Faculty Senate, concerning budget matters.

Both long-range and short-term aspects of its role will receive the committee's attention, including budget priorities, THEC formulas, and planning for projects of The University of Tennessee or other entities that may eventually result in changes to campus facilities.

The primary concerns of the Budget and Planning Committee are policy and communication. The Budget and Planning Committee is not expected to become involved with, nor engaged in, comprehensive investigations necessary as a basis for budget decisions.

Diversity and Inclusion

- G. Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Membership shall consist of **at least** eight faculty members. The committee chairperson is appointed by the Faculty Senate President. Three members will be committee liaisons appointed by the chairs of the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Teaching and Learning Council, and the UT System Relations Committee. The other **remaining four** members will be appointed by the Faculty Senate President and will reflect diverse campus constituencies.

The charge of the committee is to ~~actively support diversity and inclusion at UTK~~ a diverse, engaged, and inclusive environment through collaboration with other committees, commissions, and task forces across the university focused on diversity, engagement, and inclusion efforts.

Original Language

- G. Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Membership shall consist of eight faculty members. The committee chairperson is appointed by the Faculty Senate President. Three members will be committee liaisons appointed by the chairs of the Faculty Affairs Committee, the Teaching and Learning Council and the UT System Relations Committee. The other four members will be appointed by the Faculty Senate President and will reflect diverse campus constituencies.

The charge of the committee is to actively support diversity and inclusion at UTK.

Faculty Affairs Committee

H. Faculty Affairs Committee. Membership shall consist of nine faculty members. ~~none of whom shall be an administrator at or above the level of department head.~~ The Faculty Affairs Committee shall concern itself with the adoption and amendment of faculty governance policies and rules, including the development and refinement of criteria and procedures for faculty appointment, promotion, retention, evaluation, the granting of tenure, retirement, and discharge for cause. The Faculty Affairs Committee is responsible for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the *Faculty Handbook* **and its appendices** in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the Faculty Handbook. ~~and for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the Manual for Faculty Evaluation in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the Manual for Faculty Evaluation.~~ The activities of the Faculty Affairs Committee shall be conducted at all times in a manner consistent with the Trustees' Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure, as the same may be amended from time to time, and shall be guided by faculty governance best practices in higher education, **including** especially those identified and promoted by the American Association of University Professors.

Original Language

H. Faculty Affairs Committee. Membership shall consist of nine faculty members, none of whom shall be an administrator at or above the level of department head.

The Faculty Affairs Committee shall concern itself with the adoption and amendment of faculty governance policies and rules, including the development and refinement of criteria and procedures for faculty appointment, promotion, retention, evaluation, the granting of tenure, retirement, and discharge for cause. The Faculty Affairs Committee is responsible for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the *Faculty Handbook* in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the *Faculty Handbook*, and for reviewing proposed revisions and recommending changes to the *Manual for Faculty Evaluation* in accordance with the amendments procedures set forth in the *Manual for Faculty Evaluation*. The activities of the Faculty Affairs Committee shall be conducted at all times in a manner consistent with the Trustees' Policies Governing Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure, as the same may be amended from time to time, and shall be guided by faculty governance best practices in higher education, including especially those identified and promoted by the American Association of University Professors.

Graduate Council

I. 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.

<u>Graduate Students</u>	<u>Total Graduate Council</u>
1 – 300	1
301 – 500	2
501 – 700	3
701 – 900	4
901 – 1100	5
1101 – 1300	6
1301 – 1500	7
1501 – 1700	8

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 Vice Provost and Director of the Center for Global Engagement, ~~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.

Original Language

I. 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.

<u>Graduate Students</u>	<u>Total Graduate Council</u>
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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.

Library and Information Technology Committee

- J. Library and Information Technology Committee. Membership shall consist of ~~10~~⁹ faculty members representing ~~the broad interests with experience~~ interests of faculty in library policies, educational and/or information technology, and research. The Student Government Association and the Graduate Student Senate may select one undergraduate student member and one graduate student member, respectively.

Ex-officio members shall include the Dean of Libraries, the Chief Information Officer ~~of the Office of Information Technology~~ for UTK, the Executive Director for OIT Support, and the UTK Director of the Innovative Technology Center Online Programs.

Duties of the Library and Information Technology Committee include: (1) identifying, reviewing, and recommending information technology and library policies; (2) representing the Faculty Senate on key university committees that address information technology library services; (3) reporting to the Faculty Senate on key information technology and library issues and developments that affect the campus; ~~and~~ (4) ensuring that library services and collections meet the teaching, research, and public service needs of the campus communities with particular focus on library policies and procedures that facilitate use of resources; and (5) serve as a gateway for faculty input to OIT and Teaching and Learning Innovation for common technology services related to teaching and research.

Original Language

- J. Library and Information Technology Committee. Membership shall consist of 10 faculty members representing broad interests with experience in library policies, educational and/or information technology, and research. The Student Government Association and the Graduate Student Senate may select one undergraduate student member and one graduate student member, respectively.

Ex-officio members shall include the Dean of Libraries, the chief information officer of the Office of Information Technology, the chief information officer for UTK, and the director of the Innovative Technology Center.

Duties of the Library and Information Technology Committee include: (1) identifying, reviewing, and recommending information technology policies;(2) representing the Faculty Senate on key university committees that address information technology; (3) reporting to the Faculty Senate on key information technology issues and developments that affect the campus; and (4) ensuring that library services and collections meet the teaching, research, and public service needs of the campus communities with particular focus on library policies and procedures that facilitate use of resources.

Non-Tenure Track Issues Committee - March 3, 2020

K. 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 **and working conditions** of this group across the campus. In years when there are not enough Non-Tenure Track Faculty Senators to ~~fill~~ **represent the range of non-tenure track interests**, 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 **all** other committees such as, but not limited to, the Faculty Affairs Committee, **the Budget and Planning Committee, Research Council, the Athletics Committee,** and the Benefits and Professional Development Committee.**

****L. Knox comment: This is a very big charge and is becoming increasingly unwieldy for our committee. It is a big charge because we non-tenure track faculty, given the diversity of our responsibilities and our increasing involvement in the campus community, have all the same interests as tenure track faculty. We are affected by all the same issues—the breadth of which is mirrored in our committee structure. The only difference is that because of our contingent status, we often have a different perspective on and are impacted differently by these issues. At the start of the 2019-20 academic year, our committee identified overlapping concerns with EVERY OTHER committee of the Senate. Therefore, our committee recommends a restructuring of NTTF representation, with the creation of a new leadership role, as proposed above, that would allow NTTF perspectives to be represented in leadership decisions. This would narrow the NTTI Committee's role to issues directly related to our status as contingent faculty (our evaluation, annual review, promotion, and due process).**

Original Language

K. 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 Senators to fill 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

Research Council -Approved by Research Council Jan 8, 2020

- L. 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, ~~an~~ the Associate or Assistant Vice Chancellor for from the Office of 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 additional 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 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~~ be eligible to serve as a faculty senator. Each year near the end of the spring academic term, the Research Council shall elect a Chair for the coming year. Following a vote by members of the Research Council, the Research Council Chair will ~~convey~~ report to the President-elect the ~~name of the candidate recommended~~ person elected to Chair the Research Council for the coming year. This ~~recommendation~~ will also be reflected in ~~Council minutes of the May meeting~~ the minutes of the Research Council. To serve as Chair of the Research Council, an individual must have served at least one year on the Council prior to assuming the position. The immediate past Chair of the Research Council will serve as an ex-officio member of the Council during 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 or Assistant Vice Chancellors for Research and Engagement. Areas of ~~concern~~ interest 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~~ institutional facilities, computational support, and other research-related resources. The Research Council conducts the initial phase of the periodic review of ~~University~~ research centers and units supported by and/or reporting to the Office of Research. 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 by UTK, UTIA, and UTSI researchers. When appropriate, the Research Council shall report its actions for approval to the Faculty Senate. The Office of Research and Engagement has agreed to provide a member of the administrative staff to facilitate meeting functions and support the activities of the Research Council ~~to take meeting minutes and a room for Research Council meetings.~~

Original Language

- L. 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 additional 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. Following a vote by members of the Research Council in the May meeting, the Research Council Chair will convey to the President-elect the name of the candidate recommended to Chair the Research Council for the coming year. This recommendation will also be reflected in Council minutes of the May meeting. To serve as Chair of the Research Council, an individual must have served at least one year on the 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 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 by UTK, UTIA, and UTSI researchers. When appropriate, the Research Council shall report its actions for approval to the Faculty Senate. The Office of Research and Engagement has agreed to provide staff to take meeting minutes and a room for Research Council meetings.

Undergraduate Council

Note Language in Yellow Below Needs Discussion

N 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 Council**. 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:

Baccalaureate Degrees Granted	Total Undergraduate Council
1 – 300	1
301 – 500	2
501 – 700	3
701 – 900	4
901 – 1100	5
1101 – 1300	6
1301 – 1500	7
1501 – 1700	8
1701 – 1900	9

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.**

Vice Provost Hinde has expressed a strong desire to clarify the final sentence of section N. The bylaws state that "Any curricular change may be reopened for review and its implementation delayed upon vote of the Executive Council or the full Faculty Senate." This vague language raises two concerns:

- a.) *There is no explanation of what happens after such a vote. If the Senate votes to reopen a curricular change for review, who reviews it? What is the process for such a review? What is the timeline? If the Faculty Senate Executive Council votes to delay the implementation of a curricular change, how long does this delay last? Can a curricular change be delayed indefinitely in this way? Can the FS Executive Council use this power to delay a curricular change for an unlimited period of time before the full Senate can review it? Of course, the actions of the Undergraduate Council are always subject to approval by the Senate and its leadership. The question is whether we can establish a set of guidelines or procedures to guide us in the event of such a review or delay.*
- b.) *In the sentence quoted above, does the term "curricular change" refer only to catalog changes that relate to the curriculum, i.e., courses and program requirements? Or does it include the "academic policies and procedures" section of the undergraduate catalog as well? The Academic Policy Committee of the Undergraduate Council routinely updates those policies. Such policy changes are reviewed by the UG Council and incorporated into the minutes of our meetings, which proceed to the Senate for final approval. In that sense, they are actions of the UG Council that follow the usual path through Senate review before they are implemented. But since "curricular matters" are just one of several areas of responsibility that the bylaws confer on the UG Council, we might need to broaden the language in this sentence (e.g., replace "any curricular change" with "any action of the Undergraduate Council"). Conversely, if we wish to limit the scope of the Senate's power to reopen / delay curricular changes – so that it applies to course and program changes only – then we should substitute a narrower term instead. Again, we all recognize that the Senate has the final authority to approve or reject changes to academic policies by means of up-or-down votes on the Senate floor. The issue is to clarify which actions by the UG Council should be subject to this more particular "delay" clause.*

In a way, these questions really amount to whether or how the Senate can exercise a line-item veto over UG Council actions. Since those actions are presented to the Senate in the form of meeting minutes accompanied by a summary report, there isn't a formal way for the Senate to reject individual items without voting against the minutes in their entirety. Perhaps the most effective way to resolve the issues raised above would be simply to affirm in writing the Senate's power to reject individual actions of the UG Council on an item-by-item basis. Items rejected in this way could always be reviewed again in the future, after going back to the beginning of the approval process. This procedure would, in effect, enable the Senate to reopen and delay a curricular change as the current bylaws allow, but with less ambiguity. This is just one possible way to address the problem, of course.

Proposed Changes of Section 2.A (page 4)

Section 2. Election of Senators. The full-time or continuing part-time faculty of each college, unit, or division of UTK and UTIA and the faculty of UTSI with the rank, or equivalent rank, of lecturer, clinical instructor, assistant professor or higher shall elect its representatives to the Faculty Senate ~~by April 1~~ before May 1 each year as set forth in this Section 2.

A. Nominations. The President-Elect of the Faculty Senate administers all elections with assistance from the clerical secretary of the Faculty Senate and the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. Each January, the clerical secretary of the Faculty Senate shall notify the Faculty Senate President-Elect of the number of positions to be filled in the forthcoming election based on information received by him or her from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. The elected faculty members from each caucus shall serve as a nominations subcommittee of the Faculty Senate Committee on Nominations and Appointments for the respective college, unit, or division represented by the caucus. The caucus members shall call for and receive nominations from faculty in their respective colleges, units, or divisions. The members of each caucus shall meet to select from nominees the appropriate number of candidates to stand for election in their college, unit, or division. There shall be at least two candidates listed on the ballot for each seat to be filled through the annual election, absent extraordinary circumstances. Nominations will be submitted ~~by February 15~~ before April 1. The Committee on Nominations and Appointments shall collect the names of all nominees to be included on the ballot, together with a brief biography or statement for each, and shall set the time and procedures for voting. All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot. The votes shall be taken and counted electronically or, in the absence of electronic voting, shall be taken in the caucus and reported to the President- Elect by the caucus chair. All elections shall be completed before ~~April 1~~ May 1 each year.