

Edits to Faculty Senate By-Laws

Feedback to these changes can be sent to Loretta Link (gll561@utk.edu) - to do so, please go to the By-Law document and indicate via line number where your comment applies.

All edits are in red throughout the document.

Summary of Changes:

1. There are minor typographical fixes and clarifications throughout the document, including the removal of all gendered pronouns.
2. Many of the functions that used to be performed by individual Faculty Senate officers are now done jointly by the President, President-Elect, and Past-President, thus an abbreviation for the "Faculty Senate Leadership Team (FSLT)" is defined and used throughout. Page 2.
3. We clarified the definitions of caucus chair, caucus, and constituency on the bottom of page 2.
4. We removed the over-specification of types of faculty appointments and inserted a more broad "full or continuing part-time appointments at any faculty rank." Page 2.
5. We clarified the role and selection of alternates in the document. It is now up to the caucus chairs or caucus to select alternates (not every unit elects them). We have clarified that their role is to serve when a Faculty Senator will miss a meeting and that their term is for one year. They can serve as members of committees if they desire. (page 3)
6. The apportionment verbiage was confusing, so we clarified it to be any part-time faculty at 20% FTE or above, combined into FT equivalents, and then combined with full-time faculty is the number used for apportionment in the Caucus. Page 3. We also added a more complete list of how those numbers align with representative numbers as an Appendix.
7. We clarified the nomination and election process to reflect what we actually do. Page 4.
8. We added the option to adjust meeting modality with the consultation of the Senate, and added an electronic voting option. Page 5.
9. We changed the order of business to put approval of minutes first, followed by reports. Page 6.
10. Clarified how to replace chairs who cannot complete a term. Page 7.
11. Clarified that at-large Executive Council members are appointed by the FSLT, and that only one member of a co-chair of a committee or council is a voting member. Page 8.
12. Changed the number of faculty senators needed for each faculty senate committee to say "up to...x". This gives us flexibility in making assignments to other campus committees while still filling our standing committees. (Throughout Section 2)
13. Added the UTK Board of Trustees's Committee on Education, Research, and Service to the University / System Relations Committee. Page 15.
14. Added the Immediate Past President to the list of Officers and clarified how to replace a president who will not serve as Immediate Past President. Page 16.
15. We changed several titles: The Faculty Senate Administrative Assistant (Loretta) was called "Clerical Secretary" in the By-Laws and we have changed that to "Administrative Assistant"; "Information Officer" has been changed to "Communication Officer"; "Secretary" has been changed to "Recording Secretary"; we also clarified the Communication Officer and Recording Secretary job descriptions slightly to reflect what they actually do. Page 17.
16. Made minor changes to the Benefits and Professional Development committee description as suggested by the Chair. Page 9.