

Resolution C: Amendments to the procedure for voting and agenda-setting.

Resolved, the Constitution and By-laws of the Faculty Senate shall be amended as follows:

I. Amendments to the Constitution.

The following amendment will take effect upon approval by the Board of Trustees.

Item 1. Special Meetings.

In Article II, section 3, strike from the word “upon” in the second sentence to the end of the section, and substitute “by the Senate Council on its own initiative or on the signed petition to the Senate Council of any twenty-five members of the Senate.”. In Article III, subsection 2(a), insert the word “signed” between “the” and “petition”, substitute “twenty-five” for “ten”, and substitute “Council” for “Chairman”.

Item 2. Amendments.

In Article IV, subsection 1(c), strike the words “Constitution and” and add to the end of the sentence the following: “, and, subject to the approval of the chancellor and the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation, the Constitution and the Policy on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure”.

Add to the end of the Constitution the following new Article V (which replaces By-laws Article 6):

“V. Amendments

Amendments to the Constitution and to the Policy on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure passed by the Senate shall become effective upon approval by the chancellor and the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation.”

Item 3. Powers of the Senate Council.

In Article IV, section 3, add new subsections d and e, and renumber the last sentence, currently designated subsection d, as subsection f:

“d. It shall consider proposals made by any member of the Senate for amendments to the Constitution, the By-laws of the Senate, or the Policy on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure, and shall report its views on those proposals to the Senate.”

“e. It shall set the agenda for every Senate meeting (regularly or specially scheduled). The agenda shall include any item proposed by signed petition of twenty-five members of the Senate, or by the chancellor.”

II. Amendments to the Senate By-laws.

The following amendment will take effect upon approval of the constitutional amendments in Title I above by the Board of Trustees.

Item 1. Special meetings.

In Article Two, section 4, strike the current text in its entirety and substitute the following: “Special meetings of the Senate may be called by the chancellor or by the Senate Council. The Senate Council may call a special meeting on its own initiative, and shall call a special meeting on the signed petition of twenty-five members of the Senate presented to the Senate Council.”

Item 2. Notice.

In Article Five, section 3 (renumbered section 2 by item 3 of this resolution), add the following text after the phrase “regular annual meetings”: “and any special meetings called by the chancellor, or by the Senate Council on its own initiative or on the signed petition of twenty-five members of the Senate”. After the word “The notice” add “shall include the meeting agenda, and”. Delete sections 4 and 5 in their entirety.

Item 3. Elimination of the ordinary quorum.

Strike Article Five section 2, renumber prior section 3 as section 2, and add the following new section 3:

- “3. No quorum is required for duly noticed meetings, except that where the notice provided is not through the ordinary University delivery channels or where notice is provided less than ten calendar days before the meeting, ten percent of the membership of the Senate shall constitute a quorum.”

Item 4. Voting procedures.

In Article Five, add the following as new sections 4 and 5:

4. Whenever the Senate’s agenda includes an item requiring a vote,
 - a. All votes on proposed amendments to the Constitution; to the by-laws of the Senate; or to the Policy on Academic Freedom, Responsibility, and Tenure shall proceed by ballot as described in subsections d-f of this section. On other matters, the Senate Council shall decide whether the intended vote should be held at the meeting or via the ballot procedure. When the Senate Council has decided to conduct the vote at the meeting, if during the Senate’s deliberation the item is amended in a manner that renders it substantially different from its description in the notice of the meeting, the chair of the Senate Council may instead declare that item subject to the ballot procedure described in subsections d-f of this section.
 - b. The agenda item shall be duly noticed to the members of the Senate, by an agenda distributed in accordance with Section 2 of this Article. The agenda shall specify whether the intended vote will be held via the provisions of subsection d of this section, or at the meeting itself. Any non-procedural vote that occurs without such prior notice shall be advisory only unless confirmed by a subsequent vote after a duly noticed meeting.
 - c. The Senate Council shall report its views on the item at the duly noticed meeting, and other members of the Senate shall be afforded opportunity to present their views on the item.

- d. For votes that occur via ballot following the meeting, rather than at the Senate meeting, the Secretary shall distribute ballots for the item through the University delivery channels. The Secretary shall ensure that each ballot indicates (in a manner to be determined by the Secretary) the school of the voting member's primary appointment, and is accompanied by the minutes of that part of the meeting in which the relevant items were debated. Proponents and opponents of the item on the ballot may provide the Secretary with brief statements of the issues, which the Secretary shall include along with the minutes. All members of the Senate may then vote by submission of a ballot. Such voting will proceed for seven days following distribution of the ballots.
 - e. On the seventh day following the distribution of the ballots, an appropriate University administrative official, designated by the chair of the Senate Council and assisted by two tellers also designated by the chair, shall tabulate the results.
 - f. An item subjected to a vote via the ballot procedure described in subsection d passes only if receives both: (1) a majority among all the ballots cast; and (2) a majority among the ballots cast from each of at least two schools *and* at least six affirmative votes cast from each of these two schools. Each member's vote is considered to be cast from the school of the member's primary appointment.
5. For any vote proceeding by ballot, whether relating to an agenda item or an election, ballots may be either paper or electronic at the discretion of the Senate Council.

Item 5. Amendments.

Strike Article Six (which has been replaced by Constitution Article V, in item 2 of title I, above.)