

[*approved*] 2.7.3. Other Standing Committees of the Faculty. The following committees are also considered to be Standing Committees of the Faculty, but the election of the members is not conducted by the Elections Committee, or there is no election of members: Community Engagement Committee, Curriculum Committee, **Equity, Justice, and Inclusion Committee**, Graduate Studies Committee.

[*approved, to be sent to a vote of the faculty*] 4.7. An amendment to this Constitution of the Faculty Senate shall go into effect immediately on passage by a vote of the majority voting in a secret ballot of the entire faculty, **followed by approval by the president of the university**. This secret ballot shall be conducted by the Senate Elections Committee with assistance from the Office of the President of the University. This secret ballot shall be conducted within 14 calendar days of the passage of an amendment by the Senate or, if a proposed amendment is not passed by the Senate and is subject to a petition, in accordance with article 4.1. of this Constitution concerning the right of the faculty to reverse Senate decisions.

[in red - *approved, to be sent to a vote of the faculty*; in blue – *to be discussed*] 2.2. The Faculty Senate has decision-making authority in such areas as curriculum matters, degree requirements, scholastic standards, academic freedom, admission policies, student behavior, **program assessment**, and **academic advising within an academic program**.

[*approved, to be sent to a vote of the faculty*] 2.3. The Faculty Senate serves in an advisory capacity in the appointment of administrative officers, budget and planning matters, university organizational structure, promotion and tenure policy, **external program review**, and in other matters affecting the educational quality and mission of the university.

Context for each of the items:

(1) The committee has changed its name; however, the name change needs to be reflected in the Bylaws of the Senate.

(2) Article 4.7, as currently worded, seems to contradict the AAUP Collective Bargaining Agreement:

5.9 Constitution and Bylaws

The Senate shall adopt a written constitution and bylaws upon ratification by a majority of its constituency. The Senate and all university-wide standing committees shall adopt written rules of order approved by the Senate or by another process consistent with the Senate's Constitution. The Constitution and bylaws, **which become effective upon Presidential approval**, shall be consistent with state and national laws, and the terms of this Agreement. The Constitution and bylaws must be consistent with each other.

The CBA says that the Constitution and bylaws are effective upon Presidential approval, while the Constitution says the constitution is effective immediately upon approval by a vote of the faculty.

The past practice of the Senate has been to submit amendments to the Senate Constitution to the President of the University for approval.

(3&4) The lists of matters on which the Senate has either decision-making authority or advisory capacity is missing two crucial components of faculty members' work. Faculty members spend considerable

amounts of time each year advising students and preparing assessment reports. The Senate Constitution should be amended to reflect our role in these matters.

- Since academic advising within an academic program is mostly done by AAUP faculty advisors and is a major part of recruiting strategy of individual programs, the Senate should have decision-making authority regarding advising policy. The faculty who do the advising are in the best position to formulate advising policies.
- Since assessment reports are prepared by faculty who know their own programs best, and reviewed by faculty on the Senate's Academic Assessment Committee, and since the members of said committee have been involved in drafting policies and resolutions on assessment, the Senate should have decision-making authority regarding assessment. However, assessment is considered distinct from our external review process, on which we have advisory capacity. When the external review policy was approved, it was presented to the Senate for input, but the Senate does not draft the policy, management does.