UNIVERSITY FACULTY COMMITTEE

The University Faculty Committee shall consist of the Dean and the Secretary, ex officio, and nine members of the Faculty. Five members of the UFC shall be current Senate members at the time of their election; four need not be current members of the Senate at the time of their elections.

Members elected from the Senate shall serve a complete term on the University Faculty Committee even if their Senate term expires prior to the end of their University Faculty Committee term. No person shall serve more than two complete consecutive terms on the University Faculty Committee.

The Dean of the Faculty will serve as chair of the Committee.

Charge to the Committee

The University Faculty Committee, in addition to performing such other functions as may be prescribed by the Senate, shall:

1. Provide liaison between the Faculty Senate and the President, Provost, and other senior University administrators.

2. Meet on a regular basis with the Provost and/or President in order to provide advice and consultation on all major policy issues that are of interest to the faculty.

3. Act as an executive committee for the Senate and the University Faculty.

4. Inform and consult the Senate on a regular and frequent basis.

5. Act for the Senate in emergencies; and in considering nominations of the Nominations and Elections Committee for administration or administration-faculty committees when required by the need for timely action.

6. Establish and/or reappoint ad hoc committees and subcommittees.

7. Assist the Dean in preparing the agenda for all meetings of the Senate.

The Committee shall determine whether each Senate meeting is to be “open” or “closed” to visitors; and encourage all members of the University Faculty who are not members of the Senate to attend, participate in debate, but not to make motions or vote.

The Committee shall decide whether a Faculty meeting should be open or closed to visitors, either to admit accredited members of the press or other public media, without discrimination, or a limited number of other visitors, or both, for all or a portion of a meeting. This decision may be appealed by a motion properly made and seconded at the meeting in question. A majority vote of the voting members present constituting the quorum
shall be sufficient to amend, modify, or reverse the decision of the University Faculty Committee concerning the status of visitors at the meeting.

8. Request the Dean to call special meetings of the University Faculty and/or Senate, if warranted.

9. Review any proposal to suspend or nullify an action of the Faculty Senate; make its views known to the Faculty in the call of the meeting or otherwise; and assist the Secretary and the proposers in presenting the proposal to the meeting.

   Action on Proposal. Any such proposal shall be promptly submitted to a special meeting of the Faculty, or if the timing permits, a regular meeting, provided notice of such proposal is set forth in the call of the meeting. Provided the necessary quorum is present, adoption of such proposal requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members present. If the proposal is not adopted, the action of the Senate shall stand, subject to paragraph below. If two successive meetings (including an adjourned meeting) have been called or set to consider any such proposal, and there is an absence of a quorum at each, the action of the Senate shall stand, subject to the following paragraph.

   Referendum by University Faculty. A referendum by mail ballot of the University Faculty may be had on any action of the Senate which has been duly submitted to the University Faculty for proposed nullification as outlined above, whether or not such proposal to nullify has been approved. Such a referendum may also be had on any action of the University Faculty taken in the exercise of its reserved powers without any prior action of the Senate. The following procedures shall govern:

   Any such referendum shall require a petition in writing from the President, the Trustee, or voting members of the Faculty equal to or greater in number than the authorized membership of the Senate, filed within twenty days of the last action, or failure to act, on the matter on which the referendum is sought.

   The Dean shall, in cooperation with the University Faculty Committee, distributes suitable information concerning the issue to the Faculty.

   Subsequent Action. Once a proposal to postpone or nullify an action of the Senate has been initiated and has been finally approved or defeated by the University Faculty under the above procedures, or final action has been taken on a matter within the reserved powers of the University Faculty, the matter (or substantially the same matter as determined by the University Faculty Committee) shall not be brought up again before the University Faculty or the Senate until at least one year has passed from the date of such final approval, defeat, or other action.

10. Initiate, by majority vote, a proposal to amend the Organization and Procedures of the University Faculty.

   Submission to the Faculty. Any such proposal to amend shall be reviewed by the Senate, which shall make its recommendation thereon. The Dean shall then promptly submit such proposal, together with the recommendation of the Senate, to a meeting of the University Faculty. If the proposal fails to receive the approval of a majority of those present and voting, it shall be deemed to have failed. If it does receive such majority approval, it shall then be submitted to a referendum in accordance with the next section.

   Referendum. If the proposal to amend has been approved by a majority vote at a meeting of the Faculty, it shall then be submitted promptly to all voting members of the University Faculty for a referendum by mail ballot. If approved by a majority of the valid ballots cast, the proposal shall be deemed adopted.
Such referendum shall be supervised by the Committee on Nominations and Elections, which shall decide all questions and disputes arising in connection therewith. The Committee may call upon the Dean and the University Faculty Committee, if necessary, for assistance in conducting such election.

Subsequent Action. If a proposal to amend the Organization and Procedures of the University Faculty is defeated, the same proposal (or substantially the same proposal, as determined by the University Faculty Committee) may not be initiated until at least one year has passed from the date of such defeat.

From the Organization and Procedures of the University Faculty, amended by the University Faculty, October 11, 1995, referendum October 16, 1995.

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