

CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Article I. Scope

The Faculty Senate of the University of Toledo is an elected body of the faculty, with responsibility to promote the mission, function and interests of the University of Toledo and its faculty. As such, the Faculty Senate acts as the representative voice of the faculty.

Article II. Responsibilities and Jurisdiction

The Faculty Senate may consider any subject pertaining to the interests of the University and to act in the name of the University Faculty in making recommendations to the University Administration on these matters.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Faculty Senate shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- A. To provide a collegial forum for communication and consultation between the University Faculty and the University Administration.
- B. To promote a positive working environment for academic, clinical, and professional excellence and growth for the faculty of all Colleges within the University.
- C. To protect faculty rights and privileges, equal opportunity, due process, and academic freedom, and to promote an exemplary standard of ethical conduct at the academic, professional and administrative levels.
- D. To review and respond to policy, procedural and programmatic changes, initiated or recommended by the University Administration, that affect the University Faculty or the academic mission of the institution.
- E. Subject to the supervision and control of the Board of Trustees of the University as delegated through the academic administration, to exercise responsibility for the academic affairs of the University, including: the academic rules, regulations, policies and standards regarding undergraduate students; the standards for granting of degrees, honors and awards; and the oversight of student development and progression.
- F. To participate in a meaningful manner in any University long range strategic planning or prioritization, including budgetary, policy, fiscal and facility planning.
- G. To facilitate bi-annual formative assessments of the provost, vice provost(s), and deans to ensure accountability and improve administrative performance.
- H. To have a meaningful role in university-wide academic appointments, including being an active participant in the search process.
- I. To form standing and ad hoc committees as may be appropriate for effective and efficient execution of its duties.
- J. To review periodically the structure of the University Faculty, including non-Faculty Senate appointed and elected committees, and make appropriate recommendations to the University Administration.
- K. To develop and adopt rules, procedures, and appendices to this Constitution for the effective administration and operation of the Faculty Senate.

Article III. Membership Eligibility

Only continuing, full-time members of the University Faculty shall be eligible for membership in the Faculty Senate. Such persons shall not include faculty emeriti, faculty on superannuate status, or faculty with visiting, adjunct, or non-renewable term appointments.

In addition, the Provost shall serve as ex-officio, non-voting member of the Faculty Senate.

Article IV. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall consist of the President, the President-Elect, the Past-President, the Executive Secretary, one member of the Senate elected to the Faculty Advisory Committee to the Ohio Board of Regents, two members of the Senate representing colleges from the main campus, and two members of the Senate representing colleges from the health science campus. The President and President-Elect shall also serve as the representatives of the Faculty Senate at meetings of The University of Toledo Board of Trustees.

Article V. Faculty Senate Bylaws and Rules

The Bylaws of the Faculty Senate shall detail the primary characteristics of the Faculty Senate and its committees and shall prescribe how Faculty Senate and its Committees function. Rules may also be adopted in order to prescribe the functions of certain Committees where greater detail is needed.

Adoption of the Bylaws and Rules shall be by a two-thirds majority vote of the Faculty Senate at a regularly scheduled meeting. Bylaws or Rules may be amended by a simple majority vote of Faculty Senate at a regularly scheduled meeting.

Article VI. Special Meetings of the University Faculty

At the request of the Faculty Senate, special faculty meetings shall be called by the President of the University for consideration of recommendations or other business of the Senate. In the event of the President's refusal or inability to call a special faculty meeting upon request of the Faculty Senate, the President of the Faculty Senate shall call and preside at such special faculty meeting.

Article VII. Non-Member Rights

Nonmembers of the University Faculty shall have the right to attend meetings of the Senate and shall be privileged to speak in regard to matters before the Senate subject to the Bylaws of the Senate. Members of the University Faculty who are not members of the Senate shall have the right to attend meetings of the Senate and to speak in regard to matters before the Senate under the Bylaws that govern the Senate, but they shall be without the right to vote.

Article IIX. Shared Governance

Each College and the Library shall establish a governance body in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Bylaws. Such bodies must operate in coordination with the Faculty Senate. Such bodies, as well as all committees of the University Faculty shall route proposals requiring University Faculty action to the Faculty Senate, insofar as those proposals come within the jurisdiction of the Faculty Senate as prescribed in Article II of this constitution.

Article IX. Amendment

A resolution to amend the Constitution may be adopted at any general meeting of the University Faculty called by the President of The University of Toledo. The Faculty Senate may also adopt such a resolution during its regular business procedures. The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the returned votes of the University Faculty. The vote will be conducted and tallied by the Senate Committee on Elections in accordance with Faculty Senate Bylaws and Rules and verified by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate.

For personnel and institutional title changes only, Faculty Senate may amend the Constitution by two-thirds majority vote of the Faculty Senate without the ratification of the University Faculty.

Article X. Interpretation

In the event of an ambiguity in the interpretation of any provision of this Constitution, its Bylaws or its Rules, the meaning of such provision shall be determined by a simple majority vote of the Faculty Senate.

Article XI. Referendum

Any action taken by the Faculty Senate in the name of the University Faculty may be reconsidered by the University Faculty in accordance with the referendum procedure established by the Faculty Senate in its Bylaws.

Amendment History

Previous Version:

Approved by the Faculty of the Main Campus And Health Science Campus, May 2007

Approved by the Board of Trustees March 10, 2008

Current Version: