

*Bylaws of the Faculty Senate
of
California University of Pennsylvania*

Article I. NAME

This organization is known as the Faculty Senate of California University of Pennsylvania.

Article II. PURPOSE

It is in the finest tradition of the academy that the faculty gathers together in a formal and democratic fashion to articulate, promote and defend the ideals of a university. Those chosen to represent their colleagues shall be known as Senators and the body to which they belong shall be called the Faculty Senate.

As the largest deliberative, representative body of the faculty, the Senate shall, in its public discourse, promote intellectual life at the University and contribute to the academic leadership of the University.

The Faculty Senate shall be concerned with all issues important to the University including academic freedom, scholarship, self-governance, curriculum, and academic and professional standards.

Because the Senate is an independent body, it is free to pursue, without restraint, all issues of importance to the University. The Senate, when exploring these important university issues, may seek counsel from persons and entities both within and without the University. In its advocacy role, the Senate may sponsor forums, hold debates, and create committees to deliberate these important issues. Conclusions arrived at through these deliberations may result in recommendations to the University Community.

Nothing within these Senate bylaws shall be construed as usurping the rights, prerogatives, or scope of influence granted the Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF), the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for faculty members at California University, as expressed in the operative Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

Article III. MEMBERS

Section 1. Classes of Members

Membership in the Faculty Senate includes two classes of members: Senators and Alternate Senators. Senators have full voting rights in Faculty Senate meetings. If the Senator is present, their Alternate Senator has voice during the meeting, but no vote. If the Senator is absent from the meeting, their Alternate Senator assumes full voting rights.

Section 2. Eligibility

Any full-time faculty member (adjunct, tenure-track, or tenured) elected by their department is eligible to serve in the Senate.

Section 3. Election and Term of Senators and Alternate Senators

Each academic department shall be represented in the Senate. Multidisciplinary departments that are eligible for multiple senators are encouraged to elect senators from diverse disciplines.

The number of senators from a department is determined by the size of the department (as defined in the CBA for determining department chair stipend).

- Departments of 1-10 faculty elect one Senator.
- Departments of 11-20 faculty elect two Senators.
- Departments of 21 or more faculty elect three Senators.

Each academic department shall also elect one Alternate Senator who will represent the department in the absence of a Senator.

The term for Senators and Alternate Senators is two years beginning in the fall. Departments should conduct elections every two years by the end of the spring semester of odd years to fill these positions. Should a vacancy arise, the department may fill the position immediately through a special election. The person elected shall complete the term of the person who created the vacancy.

Article IV. OFFICERS**Section 1. Officers and Duties****President**

The president shall conduct the meetings of the Faculty Senate.

Vice-President

The vice-president shall conduct the meetings of the Faculty Senate in the absence of the president.

Secretary

The secretary shall record and distribute meeting notes, and maintain the Faculty Senate membership list and a copy of the current bylaws.

Member at Large

When deemed necessary by the Faculty Senate, due to either an impending or recent change in leadership, a Member at Large may be elected to serve as an additional voice on Executive Committee.

Section 2. Election of Officers

Officers serve for two years beginning in the fall, with a limit of three consecutive terms. During the first meeting of the fall semester at the end of their term, nominations for the officer positions shall be taken from the floor. Election by those present shall be by ballot.

Election of the Member at Large is optional, based on a decision by the Faculty Senate to fill the position at the meeting to elect officers. If a Member at Large is desired, the election process and term of service shall mirror the other officers.

Article V. MEETINGS

Section 1. Meeting Schedule

Regular meetings shall be held during the academic year. The Senate may be called into session by the President, Vice President, or by a petition to the President from five members of the Senate.

Section 2. Meeting Participation

Faculty Senate meetings are open to the University community, but only Senators (or, in their absence, Alternate Senators) have the right to vote.

Section 3. Quorum

Ten voting members of the Faculty Senate shall constitute a quorum. Alternate Senators only count toward quorum if they are substituting (and voting) for an absent Senator.

Article VI. COMMITTEES

Section 1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of the President (as chair), Vice-President, and Secretary. When deemed necessary by the Faculty Senate, due to either an impending or recent change in leadership, a Member at Large may be elected to serve as an additional voice on Executive Committee.

This committee shall: guide the creation of meeting agendas, serve as a channel for conveying items to the attention of the Faculty Senate or its committees, propose the creation of ad hoc committees as needed, and monitor the work of other committees.

Section 2. Election Committee

The Election Committee shall consist of not less than three Faculty Senate members, elected to two year terms at the same meeting as the officers. A secret ballot is not necessary. This committee shall: manage the officer election process (including establishing specific election rules and procedures not covered in these bylaws), explain the election process in a timely manner to all Senators before each election, and communicate the process for electing Senators to the departments.

Article VII. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised* shall govern the Faculty Senate in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these bylaws and any special rules of order the Faculty Senate may adopt.

Article VIII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the Faculty Senate by a two-thirds vote, provided that the amendment was announced at the previous meeting and was published in the record of that meeting that was distributed to the Senators.