

PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE BYLAWS (in bold and Italics)As per [Resolutions](#) presented to UA Faculty Senate By Senate Operations Committee- 1/23/01

Article II. Organization

Section 1. Senate Orientation.

There will be an orientation session for all new Senators and Alternates on the first Tuesday in April that the University is in session. This will be an occasion for discussion of the history and the place of the Senate in the governance of the University, of the role and function of the Senate's officers, of the charge and function of the Senate's standing committees, and of other aspects of the Senate Constitution and Bylaws. Before the first regular meeting of the new Senate, there will also be a social function at which Senators and Alternates may become more fully acquainted with each other.

Section 2. Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee is authorized to make representations in its own name in regard to any matter within the scope of the Senate's responsibilities and functions (as defined in Article II of the Constitution) when, in the Committee's judgment, circumstances require action before it is possible to convene a meeting of the Senate. In such instances, the Committee will be guided by its best judgment regarding the intention of the Senate if such intention is known.

Section 3. Standing Committees.

1. There shall be standing committees on:

- Academic Affairs (11)
- Financial Affairs (9)
- Planning and Operations (5)
- Research and Service (5)
- Student Affairs (5)
- Senate Operations (3)
- Faculty Life (6)***

2. Subject to reasonable exceptions to accommodate the needs of the Senate and the interests of senators, each senator ordinarily will have one standing committee assignment. The number of members shall be approximately that indicated in parentheses for the respective committees.
3. After the orientation session and social occasion described in Section 1, the Secretary will ask each Senator to list preferences for assignment to the Senate's standing committees. After consultation with those who served as chairs of standing committees the previous year, the Secretary will assign each Senator to his or her first choice, if possible, and using second or third preferences where first preferences are unavailable. Senators who have indicated no preference by the second Tuesday in April shall be assigned to committees by the Secretary. All such assignments are subject to the approval of the Senate. The Secretary will distribute the tentative assignment of Senators to committees with the agenda for the regular April meeting. The first order of business for the regular April meeting will be to debate the assignment of Senators to committees, to reassign if necessary, and to confirm the final assignment by vote of the Senate. The President of the Senate will thereupon name convenors for each of the standing committees, and following the close of the regular April meeting each convenor will hold a brief meeting of each standing committee for purposes of establishing a place for meeting, if necessary, before the next scheduled meeting of the Senate steering committee. By the end of April, each standing committee will elect a chair or co-chairs from among its membership; if a chair is selected it may elect a vice-chair. Each chair or co-chair of a standing committee serves as a full member of the steering committee. Each standing committee will normally meet on the first Tuesday of each month from September through November and January through March, and at other times as desirable.
4. Standing committees will inform themselves, on their own initiative or pursuant to specific instructions from the Senate, concerning matters of current concern within their respective jurisdictions. Standing committees, directly or through their chairs are expected to seek and maintain continual dialogues with the vice presidents in charge of the areas of University affairs in which the respective committees have jurisdiction. Monthly meetings are an

- example of a mechanism for such dialogues. The committees shall make such reports and recommendations to the Senate as they deem appropriate or as the Senate requires.
5. Senators are expected to attend meetings of their standing committees. The absence of a Senator from a regularly scheduled committee meeting may be referred by the chair or co-chair of the committee to the Senate Operations Committee. Senators who regularly fail to attend committee meetings and do not provide for the attendance of alternates may be replaced on the committee.
 6. Committee on Academic Affairs. The Academic Affairs Committee is responsible for considering issues which relate to instruction, curriculum, academic standards, academic freedom, collegiality, tenure and promotion, and other issues which directly affect the learning environment of the University and the quality of its intellectual life. Questions relating directly to research and service, financial issues, and student issues will, however, normally be referred to the appropriate committee of the Faculty Senate.
 7. Committee on Financial Affairs. The Financial Affairs Committee reviews financial issues that are pertinent to the University community and makes recommendations to the Faculty Senate concerning these issues.
 8. Committee on Student Affairs. The Student Affairs Committee advises the Faculty Senate on issues related to the social and academic development of students.
 9. Committee on Research and Service. The Research and Service Committee is charged with studying and making recommendations on matters that affect the research and service component of faculty life.
 10. Committee on Planning and Operations. The Planning and Operations Committee studies the allocation of resources within the University and works to ensure communication between faculty and administration in relation to resource policies and allocations, advances proposals consistent with Faculty Senate initiatives and priorities, and makes recommendations to the Faculty Senate pertaining to resource policies and allocations.
 11. Committee on Senate Operations.

A. The Committee on Senate Operations is responsible for continuous review of the Senate's organization and procedures and for recommending changes it deems desirable in either the Constitution or the Bylaws.

B. The Senate Operations Committee will consider the reasonableness of all absences in excess of two by a senator from Senate meetings in which the senator is not represented by a duly elected alternate and will make a recommendation to the Senate whether the position should be declared vacant. The Operations Committee also will be responsible for determining if a Senate seat is vacant for reasons other than absence and will make appropriate recommendations to the Senate.

C. The Senate Operations Committee is responsible for interpreting the Constitution and Bylaws and may receive requests for interpretation from the Senate or the Senate President or may initiate action by itself. All such interpretations must be reported to the Senate and are subject to Senate concurrence.

D. The Senate Operations Committee is charged with responsibility for determining the constitutionality of the Senate Bylaws. Such determinations must be reported to the Senate and are subject to Senate concurrence.

12. The Committee on Faculty Life. The Faculty Life Committee addresses issues relevant to the general welfare and quality of life of the faculty. These issues fall outside the teaching, research, and service roles of the faculty and outside the domain of the Financial Affairs Committee. Such issues include, but are not limited to, nonpecuniary faculty benefits, faculty rights, faculty diversity, and faculty relations with the surrounding community.

Article III. Procedures

Section 1. Meeting (Senate and Steering Committee).

1. The Senate will meet on the third Tuesday, August through November and ~~January~~ **February** through April, ~~and~~ the second Tuesday of December, **and the fourth Tuesday of January** at 3:30 p.m. in locations to be determined by the Steering Committee. If the third Tuesday falls during a time when the University is not in session, the Senate will meet on the second or fourth Tuesday, as the Steering Committee determines, and the meetings of Senate committees may have to be adjusted appropriately. The Senate may meet also on the fourth Tuesday, August through November and ~~January~~ **February** through April, ~~and~~ the third Tuesday in December, **and the first Tuesday in February** in order to finish the business of the month, and Senators should keep this date free on their calendars. The Senate will also meet at other times, including the summer months, and at locations, as decided by the Senate or the Steering Committee. The regular meeting times and locations shall be decided for the upcoming year by the Steering Committee at its August meeting, Senators will be appropriately notified, and the information will be published in Dialog and/or other publications deemed useful.
 2. Regular Senate meetings normally last until 5:00 and may last longer. Senators should clear their calendars until 5:15 on regular Senate meeting days upon such an expectation. Senators are expected to maintain their attendance until 5:00, or until the meeting is adjourned prior thereto.
 3. The Steering Committee will hold a regular meeting one week before each regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate. Special meetings of the Steering Committee may be called by the President of the Senate, by the written request of three members of the Steering Committee or of five members of the Senate, by vote of the Steering committee, or by vote of the Senate.
 4. All resolutions and original motions to be presented to the Senate must be in writing and should be mailed by the Senate Secretary with the agenda for the meeting.
- A majority of members shall constitute a quorum. A quorum must be present before any vote can be taken.