

## **CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY SENATE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE**

*The faculty of the University of Alaska Anchorage establishes this constitution to govern the workings of its Faculty Senate. The Senate provides a forum for addressing university-life issues (curriculum, student success, institutional organization, and professional development) and represents faculty as part of UAA shared governance.*

### **ARTICLE 1. NAME**

**Section 1.** The name of this organization shall be the Faculty Senate of the University of Alaska Anchorage (hereafter referred to as Faculty Senate).

### **ARTICLE 2. PURPOSES, RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY**

**Section 1.** The Faculty Senate shall carry out its functions subject to the statewide authority of the Board of Regents within the laws of the State of Alaska (BOR Policy 03.01).

**Section 2.** The purposes of the Faculty Senate are

- A. To provide official representation for faculty of the University of Alaska Anchorage in matters that affect the general welfare of the University and its research, creative activities, and educational programs.
- B. To serve as an agency by which information of general concern and interest to the University of Alaska Anchorage faculty may be freely collected, discussed, and disseminated.
- C. To function as the legislative body having primary authority to initiate, develop, review, and recommend policy of the University of Alaska Anchorage, including but not limited to

(1) Academic Matters

(a) ~~designated by the~~ authority to

(2) Faculty Matters

- (a) tenure
- (b) promotion
- (c) leave
- (d) professional ethics
- (e) faculty development
- (f) grants
- (g) appointment, reappointment, and termination
- (h) other matters affecting the welfare of the faculty

(3) Physical Facilities and Equipment

- (a) academic computing
- (b) instructional technology
- (c) classrooms
- (d) laboratories, research, and creative arts facilities
- (e) other facilities affecting the quality of instruction and scholarship.

(4) University Community

- (a) diversity
- (b) continuing education
- (c) safety
- (d) community outreach
- (e) other issues affecting students, faculty, and the community.

D. To provide consultative and advisory services to the Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage in matters including but not limited to

- (1) budget,
- (2) calendar
- (3) administrative



- Section 8.** Any voting member of the Senate may be recalled according to the provisions of the bylaws.
- Section 9.** Changes to the ratio of eligible faculty-to-senate seats shall be done upon a two-thirds vote of the Senate.
- Section 10.** Senate Representatives to Board vacancies shall be elected by the Faculty Senate annually at the May meetineen-US

**Section 9.** If for any reason the President should relinquish or be recalled from office, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President will automatically and immediately assume the Presidency.

**Section 10.** If for any reason the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President should relinquish or be recalled from office, the President will call an election.

**Section 11.** If for any reason the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President should relinquish or be recalled from office, the President will call an election.

**Section 12.** The terms of newly elected Officers shall commence at the beginning of year.

**Section 13.** The President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President of the Faculty Senate together with the chairpersons of the Undergraduate Academic Board; the Graduate Academic Board; and the Past President, who shall be an ex officio, non-voting member; shall constitute the Executive Board of the Faculty Senate. The Executive Board shall be empowered to act in the name of the Senate on an emergency basis. Any actions taken by the Executive Board are subject to Senate review at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

#### **ARTICLE 5. BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** There shall be two permanent boards and fourteen (14) standing committees of the Faculty Senate.



Committee; or if the occupant fails to attend two consecutive regularly scheduled Senate meetings.

**Section 15.** Senate, permanent board, and committee vacancies that occur after a regularly scheduled annual election shall be expeditiously filled in the manner designated for that position in the Constitution and shall be for the unexpired term of the position.

**Section 16.** Board and Committee Chairs may appoint ex-officio, non-voting members.

**Section 17.** A member of the Undergraduate Academic Board or Graduate Academic Board may designate a voting substitute for a meeting from which the board member will be absent. This substitute must be eligible for membership on the board.  
Voting substitutes are not allowed on Faculty Senate committees. The presence of a voting substitute means that the absence of the elected member does not count.

## **ARTICLE 6. MEETINGS**

**Section 1.** The Senate shall meet once a month from September through December and February through May. Other meetings, including electronic voting meetings, may be held on the call of the President of the Faculty Senate. Electronic voting meetings during the period between May and August can be called only on an emergency basis by the President of the Faculty Senate, at the written request of the Undergraduate and/or Graduate Academic Boards. The results of any electronic voting meeting during the May-August period must be reported to the Senate at its regularly scheduled meeting. Senators may attend the senate meetings as voting members via remote link. Voting within meetings may be conducted using electronic means.

**Section 2.** Each academic year, the senate shall conduct one Faculty Senate Retreat in the fall semester for senators and board and committee members and one Faculty Forum for all faculty members in the spring semester. The agenda for the Faculty Senate Retreat and Faculty Forum shall be set by the Executive Board in consultation with the faculty.

**Section 3.** The business of the Faculty Senate shall be conducted in accordance with its Bylaws.

## **ARTICLE 7. QUORUM**

**Section 1.** The presence of fifty percent (50%) of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

## **ARTICLE 8. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

**Section 1.** The parliamentary authority shall be the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order. The President shall appoint a parliamentarian each year.

## **ARTICLE 9. AMENDMENTS**

**Section 1.** Amendments to the Constitution may be proposed by any tenure-track member of the faculty eligible to serve as a Senator.

**Section 2.** Copies of proposed amendments shall be sent to all members of the faculty.

**Section 3.** The President shall schedule a first reading and discussion of the proposed

amendment at the first meeting of the Faculty Senate following distribution of copies of the proposed amendment. The second reading of a proposed amendment may be held no sooner than the second regular meeting following the distribution of copies.



