



UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

University Assembly Meeting

Thursday, April 23, 2015 • 2:00 p.m.

Donaghey Student Center, Ledbetter Rooms A/B/C

AGENDA

- I. Call to order
- II. Review of minutes
- III. Remarks by the Assembly President: Andrew Wright
- IV. Remarks by the Provost: Zulma Toro
- V. Remarks by the Chancellor: Joel Anderson
- VI. Community Connections Center: Lillie Wichinsky
- VII. Old Business

- A. Motion FS_2014_17. Faculty Senate (Legislation. 3/5 Majority Vote at two consecutive Assembly meetings. Second Vote.) Term of senators (no second required)

That the section of Article III of the Constitution specifying Elections of Faculty senators be change to:

Elections of the Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate Officers

Faculty Senate elections shall be by secret ballot, and shall be held before the end of the Spring semester of each year, the exact date to be determined by the dean of each college or school. Senators elected at these college or school meetings shall assume office at the first Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year in August or September.

Members shall serve two-year, staggered terms.

During the first meeting of the academic year in August or September, the Faculty Senate shall elect its officers from the membership of the Faculty Senate.

Commentary: It is assumed throughout article III that Faculty Senators serve a two year term. However, it is never explicitly stated. It is strongly implied under By-Laws: Vacancies, which states “Seats in the Faculty Senate ... that become vacant during the academic year shall be filled for the remainder of that year from a list of alternates maintained by the Executive Committee, and for the next year (if required) by special election ...” However, in governance documents, it is better to explicitly state what is intended, rather than rely on implicit interpretation.

- B. Motion FS_2014_22: Faculty Senate (Legislation. 3/5 Majority vote at two consecutive Assembly meetings. Second Vote.)

Modify article IV of the Constitution of the UALR Assembly to add the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies:

Responsibilities of colleges and schools are as follows:

- 1 By secret ballot to elect representatives and one alternate for each representative to the Faculty Senate, the Undergraduate Council, the Graduate Council, the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies, the Committee on Tenure, and the Appeals Council. Election as an alternate will be for a one-year period only, and an alternate will serve only in the event of a vacancy. Each college or school will provide a list of alternates (by position) to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate on an annual basis.
- 2 To study college or school curricula. Each college or school shall establish its own curriculum process. Routing of curriculum and program proposals shall follow the procedures outlined in the description of the Undergraduate Council, the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies, and the Graduate Council.

Commentary: When the Council on Core Curriculum and Policies was added as a Council of the Faculty Senate, the statement on general routing of curriculum was missed in the modifications. This addition will clarify the curricular process.

- C. Motion FS_2014_30: Faculty Senate (Legislation. 3/5 Majority vote at two consecutive Assembly meetings. Second Vote.)

Modify Article II and Article III of the constitution of the UALR Assembly to:

Article II

Amending the Constitution

Amendments to the Constitution of the UALR Assembly may be proposed by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate, provided a quorum is present, or by a petition signed by thirty (30) members of the UALR Assembly and presented to the office of vice chancellor and provost. Ratification of amendments shall be by three-fifths vote of the Assembly, provided that quorum is present, at two consecutive meetings of the

Assembly. The motion on the second vote must be verbatim the motion passed in the first vote and is not amendable. At least ten (10) calendar days must elapse between the first and second meetings of the Assembly. No final vote shall be taken on a proposed amendment until it has been submitted to the Executive Committee of the Assembly and published as part of the agenda for two consecutive Assembly meetings, except that provisions concerning the composition of Assembly committees and councils shall be amended by action at one Assembly meeting in accordance with the above procedures.

The Faculty Senate shall have the power to amend provisions concerning the creation, abolish- ment and composition of Faculty Senate councils and committees as specified under *Article III, The Faculty Senate, Councils and Committees of the Faculty Senate*. The Staff Senate shall have the power to amend provisions concerning the creation, abolishment and composition of Staff Senate committees as specified under *Article V, Composition and Functions of the Staff Senate*.

Whenever the University changes an administrative title, the corresponding title may be changed in this document through majority vote of the Faculty Senate at one meeting provided that a quorum is present and that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate and published as part of the agenda for that Faculty Senate meeting.

Proposed amendments must be considered during the regular nine-month academic year.

...

Article III

The Faculty Senate Councils and Committees of the Faculty Senate

Amendments concerning Faculty Senate councils or committees may be proposed by any member of the Faculty Senate. Ratification requires a three-fifths vote of the Faculty Senate at two meetings during the regular nine-month academic year provided that a quorum is present and that the proposed amendment has been submitted to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate and published as part of the agenda for that Faculty Senate meeting. The motion on the second vote must be verbatim the motion passed in the first vote and is not amendable.

Commentary: At the first Senate meeting of the Fall 2014 semester, both of these issues arose. A point of order was raised regarding the need for verbatim motions on the second of two votes. Since the current language is vague, it is preferred to tighten it up. The second issue regarding administrative titles was raised at the same meeting, where a motion to explicitly change titles was withdrawn. The constitution does not provide a convenient means of changing administrative titles other than the amendment process, so it is desirable to lower the threshold on how this amendment may be accomplished.

- D. Motion FS_2014_31: Faculty Senate (Legislation. 3/5 Majority vote at two consecutive Assembly meetings. Second Vote.)

Modify Article III of the constitution of the UALR Assembly to:

Article III

The Faculty Senate Composition of the Faculty Senate

...

The faculty of each of the aforementioned colleges or schools with ten (10) or more faculty shall be entitled to elect a minimum of one senator, with additional Faculty Senate seats apportioned on the following basis: a second Faculty Senate seat for those colleges or schools with twenty (20) to twenty-nine (29) full-time faculty; a third Faculty Senate seat for those colleges and schools with thirty (30) to thirty-nine (39) full-time faculty members; a fourth Faculty Senate seat for those colleges and schools with forty (40) to forty-nine (49) full-time faculty members; a fifth Faculty Senate seat for those colleges and schools with fifty (50) to fifty-nine (59) full-time faculty members; and so forth for each additional ten (10) full-time faculty. *The Faculty Senate will be reapportioned every two years, prior to Faculty Senate elections, by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, based on current information as to the number of full-time faculty members in each college or school. If a new college or school is created in the year between reapportionments, the Faculty Senate shall be reapportioned prior to Faculty Senate elections in that interim year.* The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall assign faculty members of units not otherwise represented in the Faculty Senate to a single unit solely for purposes of representation in the Faculty Senate provided that such full-time faculty members number twenty (20) or greater; otherwise, the Executive Committee shall, subject to challenge on the floor of the Faculty Senate, assign such faculty members to one or more units that are represented in the Faculty Senate, such assignment being solely for purposes of representation in the Faculty Senate. When a single unit is created for purposes of representing faculty members of units not otherwise represented in the Faculty Senate, the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate has the responsibility for supervising elections to the Faculty Senate from this unit.

Commentary: There have been two instances since 1999 where a new college has been added during a year between apportionments. Strictly following the constitution would require that those colleges would not have representation until the following year. In both cases, the Faculty Senate has acted to prevent that problem from occurring. This amendment will protect against such a problem in the future.

VIII. Open Forum

A. Discussion: Judicial Appeals Policies

A motion to substantially amend all judicial appeals policies has been brought before the Faculty Senate (see http://ualr.edu/facultysenate-4andw/files/2013/12/Faculty-Sen-Agenda-03-13-16_v3.pdf at the very end.) The motion was postponed until the committees that implement judicial appeals on campus could review the documents and until the campus community had a chance to discuss the matter. This open forum is the campus chance to weigh in on judicial appeals.

IX. Adjournment