

CONSTITUTION OF THE

The Senate may discuss and take a position on any subject of University concern, and may initiate policies on these matters to the President, either directly or through its committees. The Senate appoints faculty members to serve on the University-wide committees as well as Faculty Senate committees; these committees carry out much of the work of the Senate. The Senate will have a significant role in the appointment of academic administrators, as well as the periodic performance reviews of such administrators.

The Senate will also be responsible for appointing members of the USF System Faculty Advisory Council.

B. Membership

The Faculty Senate shall be composed of elected members apportioned among and representing the academic units of the University of South Florida, and such ex officio members as described in the Bylaws. Academic units, for the purposes of the Constitution, are the individual departments or department-equivalents within Academic Affairs and the individual colleges within USF Health.

Persons elected to the presidency of the Faculty Senate shall continue as ex officio members of the Senate for two years after the expiration of their terms as president, provided that they remain members of the general faculty of the University of South Florida.

C. Apportionment

1. Formulation. The ratio of Senators to general faculty within USF Health shall be set at the same value as the ratio of Senators to general faculty within Academic Affairs. Within Academic Affairs, each academic unit will be apportioned one Senator. One additional Senator will be apportioned to represent all Academic Affairs general faculty who are not otherwise represented by a Senator. Within USF Health, each unit will receive an apportionment of Senators based on the number of general faculty within that unit.
2. Timing. Apportionment will be made only once each year and will be based on the number of members of the general faculty listed on official records of the university on the first day of the spring semester of that year. The Secretary will provide a proposed apportionment to the Faculty Senate which must be approved by a two-thirds vote.
3. Unit allocation. Each of the units within USF Health shall, by majority vote of their general faculty, decide on a system of internal allocation of Faculty Senate representation. Units shall ensure that departments and other sub-units have direct representation rather than allocate all representation to the unit level, where

possible. Units shall inform the Secretary of the Faculty Senate of the details of such allocations and any subsequent changes to them.

D. Elections

1. Eligibility for election to Faculty Senate. All members of the general faculty are eligible for election to the Faculty Senate unless otherwise indicated in the *Bylaws*. However, lecturers, instructors, assistant professors, instructor librarians, and assistant librarians must have three years of full-time service at USF before they are eligible to serve on the Faculty Senate.

2. Eligibility for participation in elections. Each member of the general faculty is eligible to vote in the election of the Faculty Senators from the unit of which he/she is a member. If a faculty member has duties in more than one unit, the faculty member shall be counted in the unit in which the major portion of his/her salary is budgeted. If a faculty member is budgeted for an equal portion in more than one unit, the faculty member may choose the unit in which to be included.

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provided in the *Bylaws*. An alternate shall be selected, in accordance with the *Bylaws*, to serve until election of a successor.

6. Absence. If a Faculty Senator is to be absent for more than one academic semester, an alternate shall be selected in accordance with the *Bylaws*. The elected Faculty Senator shall resume his/her seat for the balance of term upon his/her return.
7. Removal. A Faculty Senator may be removed from his/her seat according to the process described in the *Bylaws*.

E. Officers

1. Definition and eligibility. The Faculty Senate shall have a President, Vice President, Secretary, Sergeant-at-Arms, and Member-at-Large elected by the members of the Faculty Senate from among the elected Faculty Senators. The Parliamentarian shall be chosen by the President of the Faculty Senate from among the general faculty.
2. Duties, terms of office, and election procedures. The duties of these officers, the terms of office, and the procedures for their election are as specified in the *Bylaws*.
3. Removal. Any officer may be removed for cause. Removal of an officer for cause requires the approval of at least 2/3rds of Faculty Senators present at a scheduled meeting of the Faculty Senate, provided a quorum is established. Any officer removed remains eligible to serve as a Faculty Senator. The office shall

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Resolutions regarding matters outside the basic jurisdiction of the Faculty Senate are advisory in nature only.

B. Process

The President of the Faculty Senate shall forward each resolution adopted by the Faculty Senate to the University President. The University President shall provide written acknowledgement of its receipt to the President of the Faculty Senate within 30 calendar days. The University President may respond in writing to the President of the Faculty Senate regarding the request, and may address the request at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate.

C. Vacancy in Office of University President

Upon the resignation, retirement, or death of the University President, the Faculty Senate will designate individuals to be available for membership on any committee requested by the Board of Trustees for the purpose of consultation in the selection of a nominee for University President.

ARTICLE IV. Committees and Councils

A. Faculty Senate Committees

1. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate advises the President of the Faculty Senate, meets with the University President and his/her designees, the Provost, and the Senior Vice President for USF Health, and assists the President of the Faculty Senate in determining the agenda for Faculty Senate meetings. The membership of the

C. University-Wide Committees and

Constitution and Bylaws Committee, which shall review the proposal to determine that it is not inconsistent with Florida statutes.

B. Ratification

All amendments to this *Constitution* must be approved by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Faculty Senate present and voting at a meeting with a quorum and must be ratified by a majority of the general faculty voting. Such amendments must be ratified by a majority of the general faculty voting and be approved by the President of the University.

ARTICLE VII. Compliance

The provisions of this *Constitution* shall not be construed in any manner so as to conflict with the laws of the State of Florida, the policies of the Board of Governors or the Board of Trustees, or contractual agreements between the Board of Trustees and bargaining agents.

Date of last amendment: 03/28/96; 2/18/04; 04/16/08; 10/10; 04/16/15; 02/18