

August, 2014 Proposed Amendments to the
BYLAWS OF THE FACULTY SENATE

Article II: Membership

Section 2.

Each academic unit shall hold elections no later than six weeks prior to the termination of the spring semester every other year to elect a member ~~and alternate~~ as its representative to the Faculty Senate for the following term of office. The newly elected member shall notify the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee of the results of the election at least one week before the regularly scheduled April meeting of the Faculty Senate.

Section 3.

Each academic unit which has more than one instructional faculty member shall elect one member to serve as its representative on the Faculty Senate. ~~Each academic unit will also elect one alternate to represent the academic unit in the absence of the member. The elected alternate shall be able to represent the academic unit with full voting rights when the member is unable to attend meetings, but alternates shall not represent members on senate committees.~~

Section 4.

Members ~~and alternates~~ shall be elected from and by instructional faculty members, including academic unit heads, assistant and associate deans, and all other instructional faculty members whose home unit is the academic unit. A majority vote of those voting is required to elect members ~~and alternates~~.

Administrative and Professional faculty members, and emeritus faculty members are not eligible to vote or serve as members or ~~alternates~~ proxies of the Faculty Senate (selection of proxies is described in 11).

Section 6.

The term of office for the academic unit's member ~~and alternate~~ shall be two years, from the start of the organizational meeting of the Faculty Senate until the end of the regularly scheduled April meeting of the Faculty Senate held in the second year thereafter. No member shall serve more than six years in succession or three terms in succession.

Section 7.

A member ~~or alternate~~ may resign at any time by notifying the Faculty Senate and the academic unit head of the resignation. A member ~~or alternate~~ is only eligible to continue in the position while employed by James Madison University in an instructional position. A member or ~~alternate~~ is not eligible to continue while on administrative leave.

Academic units may remove a duly elected member ~~or alternate~~ for nonperformance of duties, misconduct, ineligible status, or other just cause. Removal shall require a two-thirds vote of the full-time instructional faculty in the academic unit. If an academic unit removes a member ~~or alternate~~, the academic unit head will notify the Faculty Senate.

The Faculty Senate may, by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Faculty Senate, dismiss a member for nonperformance of duties, misconduct, ineligible status, or other just cause. If the Faculty Senate dismisses a member, the marshal shall notify the academic unit.

Section 8.

In case of a vacancy in the position of the member ~~or alternate~~, the academic unit shall elect another member ~~or alternate~~ within 30 days to fill the remainder of the unexpired term under the election provisions set out herein. The Chair of the Senate Nominations and Elections Committee shall be notified of the results of the election.

Section 9.

The academic units from which the speaker ~~and the speaker pro tempore are is~~ elected shall ~~each~~ elect an additional member for the duration of the ~~officer's~~ speaker's terms in office to serve as the member representing that academic unit.

Section 11.

Members are empowered to designate proxies ~~other than their duly elected alternates, who shall participate in Senate meetings, and cast votes on behalf of the Member.~~ Proxies shall not participate in committee meetings.

Article III: Officers

Section 1. Organization

C. The Faculty Senate officers shall serve from ~~the date~~ the day following the spring commencement ceremony during the year of their election for a 12-month period. Officers other than the speaker may not serve for more than three successive terms in office.

Article IV: Committees

Section 2. Membership

Standing committees shall be composed of voting members of the Faculty Senate who are appointed by the Steering Committee, except for the membership of the Steering Committee, which is provided in Section 5.1 below, and the Faculty Appeals Committee, as described in Section 10 below.

Section 5. The Steering Committee

D. Immediately after the organizational meeting of the new Faculty Senate each April, the new officers shall meet and recommend the appointment of the Faculty Senate members among the appointed standing committees of the Faculty Senate. Each member shall be assigned to at least one committee based on preferences supplied by the members and the needs of the Faculty Senate. Whenever possible, each committee shall contain a diverse membership from a variety of all-academic colleges. ~~shall be represented on each committee.~~

Section 6. The Nominations and Elections Committee

A. ~~Membership of the Nominations and Elections Committee shall consist of at least one member from each academic college, when possible.~~ The marshal of the Faculty Senate shall serve as chair of this committee. ~~but the marshal's college should, if possible, have a representative in addition to the marshal.~~

B. The committee shall oversee, through the agency of the Faculty Senate marshal, the elections of members ~~and alternates~~. In the event of a contested election, the committee shall conduct a full investigation and make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate shall make the final decision as to the seating of members ~~and alternates~~ by majority vote of the Senate.

Section 11. Budget and Compensation Committee

A. The Budget and Compensation Committee shall consist of at least one member from each academic college, when possible. As necessary, appropriate, and with the consent of the Steering Committee, the Budget and Compensation Committee chair may appoint additional faculty members who are not Faculty Senate members to its membership. The committee shall elect a chair from membership of the committee at its first meeting following the Organizational meeting in April. The chair of the committee shall serve as a member of the Steering Committee.

B. The Budget and Compensation Committee will advise the Faculty Senate regarding the fiscal operation of the University as it is relevant to the University's academic mission so that the faculty may provide its recommendations to the University's administration. The Budget and Compensation Committee will also study issues related to compensation at the university and other comparable institutions and make recommendations regarding fair and adequate compensation for the faculty.

Article V: Meetings

Section 4.

For purposes of determining a quorum or majority, ~~alternates or~~ duly authorized proxies shall be considered voting members.

Section 8. Conduct of Senate Business

A. Absent unusual circumstances, members seeking to initiate motions must ~~A member may bring a matter to the senate for discussion by~~ submitting a written request to the speaker seven days prior to a Senate meeting. The speaker ~~who~~, with the advice of the Steering Committee, will either (1) place it on the agenda for a future senate meeting, or (2) refer it to the appropriate senate committee for study prior to bringing it to the full senate.

B. In exigent circumstances, a member may contact the speaker at the beginning of a senate meeting to propose a motion. At the Speaker's discretion, the request may be granted or denied, based upon factors such as the importance of the matter and the expected time available during the meeting.

CB. The senate may extend privileges of the floor of the senate to any member of the university community, including alumni. Such privilege for a meeting shall be extended to a visiting university community member through either of two procedures: (1) by arrangement prior to the meeting with the speaker, or (2) through introduction of the visitor by any member during the course of a meeting.

CD. A full agenda for a forthcoming meeting shall be presented in writing or in an electronically readable form to all members at least three (3) days in advance of each regular meeting. In addition, the text of motions requiring senate action shall likewise be presented in writing or electronically readable form at least three (3) days in advance of meetings, to the extent possible.

E. Time permitting, the Speaker may designate a period of time during the Senate meeting for open discussion among the members. During such open discussion periods, the normal restrictions of Roberts Rules of Order will be suspended, and members may participate in the discussion in an orderly fashion.