

1.4.2 The Faculty Senate

(Adopted by the Murray State University Board of Regents October 24, 1981, revised November 15, 1986 and November 14, 1992 and May 3, 1995)

The Faculty Senate is empowered by the Board of Regents to act for the university faculty, with delegated authority to advise the President as to formulation and/or review of policies regarding the educational functions of the university. The Faculty Senate is not precluded from making recommendations to the University Academic Council.

The composition of the Faculty Senate shall be in accordance with its constitution.

The Faculty Senate may:

- A. Initiate and/or review policies relating to university academic matters and make recommendations to the University Academic Council. A copy of these recommendations shall simultaneously be delivered to the President and the Provost
- B. Initiate and/or review policies relating to the rights and responsibilities of faculty members incident to their employment by the university. Any recommendation pursuant to this provision shall be made to the President and the Provost
- C. Initiate and/or review changes and additions to the Faculty Handbook. Any recommendation pursuant to this provision shall be made to the President and the Provost.
- D. Receive any alteration of a proposal acted upon by the Faculty Senate prior to its transmission to the Board of Regents.
- E. Act as the official channel of faculty opinion on all matters which have a bearing on institutional excellence.

The Faculty Senate will formulate its own rules and procedures consistent with its constitution, the policies of the university, and the laws of the Commonwealth. All meetings of the Faculty Senate shall be open and the Faculty Senate may request the opinion of any individual or group concerning any matter before the Senate provided that any individual or group may decline to give an opinion if to do so would constitute a conflict of interest, or preempt orderly administrative procedures. Members of standing committees shall be selected in accordance with the bylaws of the Faculty Senate. 32..141 TdD

ARTICLE I. Name

The agency for the exercise of the responsibilities hereindescribed shall be known as the Murray State University Faculty Senate.

ARTICLE II. Purposes and Responsibilities

The purpose of the Faculty Senate is to act as an effective faculty assembly which can, within the laws applicable to MSU, enter into a partnership for shared responsibility and cooperative action among the students, faculty, and staff.

ARTICLE IV. Officers of the Faculty Senate

- A. The Senate shall have the following officers: a President, a Vice President, and, in the absence of an Executive Secretary, a secretary. The Senate may create whatever other offices it deems appropriate. (Amended January, 1989)
- B. The officers of the Senate shall be chosen from and elected by the Senate at the first meeting in May. Their term of office shall be until the first meeting of the following May.
- C. The President of the Senate shall preside at all meetings, call special meetings when he/she deems it necessary, and upon petition of ten (10) members of the Senate, and take such actions as are necessary to expedite the operation of the Senate.
- D. The Vice President shall operate the

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senators.

- D. Unless otherwise stated, decisions of the Senate will be by majorities of those members or their substitutes, who are present and voting, provided a quorum is present. The whole Senate refers to the enfranchised members or their substitutes, whether present or not. (Amended April 25, 1984)
- E. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the whole Senate.
- F. The most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised shall govern the conduct of all business unless other rules are adopted.
- G. The Senate shall be the final authority on any question of interpretation of this constitution.
- H. At each regular meeting the Vice President of the Senate shall advise the Senate of any senator who was absent from the three preceding regular meetings provided that the senator's current term of office includes those meetings unless by a majority of the whole Senate it is decided otherwise. The Vice President shall notify in writing the senator (and in the case of departmental senators, the senator's department) of this action prior to the next regular meeting. A senator who, during any one term, is notified in accordance with this provision and following such notification is absent from three regular meetings shall be informed in writing by the Vice President that he/she will be removed from the Senate unless by a majority of the whole Senate it is decided otherwise at the next regular meeting. If a senator is removed from the Senate under this provision, the Senate, the senator and in the case of the departmental senator, the senator's department shall be notified in writing. Attendance by a substitute shall be considered attendance by the member.

ARTICLE VIII. Ratification, Initial Elections, and Initial Meeting

This constitution shall be in effect immediately upon ratification by the MSU Faculty Organization. Ratifications shall require a two-thirds majority of those voting in accordance with a procedure approved by the Faculty Organization.

Upon ratification of this constitution, the Chair of the MSU Faculty Organization shall issue a call for the initial election of senators in accordance with Article III, convene the first meeting of the Faculty Senate,

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