



POLICY MANUAL

FACULTY

Number 402

Subject: The Faculty Senate and Its Committees

Effective Date: July 1, 1997

Revision Dates: November 16, 2001, April 29, 2002, January 12, 2007, April 30, 2007, March 6, 2009, August 13, 2010

Date of Last Revision: July 8, 2011

402.1 AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY TO REVIEW FACULTY SENATE ACTIONS

Actions of the Faculty Senate (Senate) shall be subject to the appellate power of the faculty, as provided in policy 401.7.3. The agenda and actions of the Senate shall be reported to the faculty as provided in policy 402.4.2(3).

402.2 AUTHORITY OF THE SENATE

The authority of the faculty is delegated to the Senate. The Senate legislates and sets policy for matters within the collective authority of the faculty. See policy 401.7. The Senate shall have the power to act for and represent the faculty in all matters of educational policy, including requirements for admission, degrees, diplomas, and certificates; and in curricular matters involving relations between colleges, schools, divisions, or departments.

The Senate shall also have the following powers: (1) to receive and consider reports from any faculty committee, and from any council, department, division, administrative officer, library, or college; and to take appropriate action; (2) to consider matters of professional interest and faculty welfare and to make recommendations to the president of the university and other administrative officers; and (3) to propose to the president amendments or additions to these policies.

2.1 Senate Power of Internal Governance; Referral of Matters to the President

The Senate shall have the power to make rules governing its own procedures and to establish its own order of business. All other matters considered and approved by the Senate shall be

forwarded by the Executive Secretary to the president of the university and, in appropriate cases, to the Board of Trustees.

2.2 The President, University Administrators, and Board of Trustees

The Senate is an advisory body to the president of the university. While the Senate votes on policy and procedural issues, including but not limited to policy and procedural issues in these policies, these actions and recommendations cannot be implemented without the approval of the president of the university. The Board of Trustees advises the president of the university and approves or disapproves any policy or procedural change. Approval or disapproval of Senate actions, whether by the president of the university or by the Board of Trustees, shall be reported back to the President of the Senate by the president of the university, or a designee, in a timely manner following the Senate action. When Senate actions receive final approval, it is the responsibility of university administrators and administrative bodies to implement the action.

2.3 Senator's Handbook

Each senator shall receive a current Senator's Handbook which explains briefly the role and operation of the Senate. The Handbook will include: (1) provisions of this policy pertinent to Senate proceedings, rules, and membership; (2) a simplified statement of the Rules of Order; and (3) rules for calling meetings. The Senate Executive Secretary must ensure that each newly elected Senator receives a Handbook no later than the September meeting of the Senate.

402.3 MEMBERSHIP; ALTERNATES; TERM; VACANCIES

3.1 Membership

The Senate shall be composed of the following members: (1) sixty faculty members assigned in proportion to the number of tenured and tenure eligible faculty in the academic colleges, the Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library. These sixty will be elected by and from faculty members eligible to vote in Senate elections (see policy 401.4.2(c)); (2) the president and the executive vice president and provost of the university or their designees; (3) eight appointees of the president of the university who shall be a vice president an academic college dean, a regional campus dean, or a chancellor, six of whom must hold faculty appointments and must be designated annually preceding elections to the Senate; (4) the chairs of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee, the Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee, the Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity Committee, and the Faculty Evaluation Committee if they are not one of the faculty members elected to the Senate; and (5) three students, who shall include the Associated Students of Utah State University (ASUSU) President or a designee, the ASUSU Academic Senate President or a designee, and the Graduate Student Senate (GSS) President or a designee.

With the exception of faculty holding special or emeritus appointments, any member of the faculty who is not designated as a presidential appointee is eligible for election to the Senate.

3.2 Alternates for Elected Members

Senate members are expected to attend its meetings regularly. In cases of unavoidable absence, including sabbatical leave, professional development leave, and unpaid leaves of absence, Senators will arrange for an elected alternate senator to attend in their place. (see policy 402.10.2). The alternate shall have full voting rights.

Senators must notify the Executive Secretary of the Senate in writing (email is acceptable) whenever alternates will replace them. If an absent senator fails to arrange for a substitute more than once during an academic year, then that senator's position will be considered vacant (see policy 402.3.4). Senators are considered absent whenever they are replaced by designated alternates (see policy 402.3.4).

3.3 Term

Faculty members elected to the Senate shall serve three-year terms or, as provided in policy 402.3.4, complete the three-year term vacated by a faculty member. Terms shall begin July 1 following elections and may be re-elected once, after which a faculty member is ineligible to stand for election for one year. The term of office for student members of the Senate shall be one year and shall coincide with the term of ASUSU and GSS officers. The term of office for presidential appointees shall be one year and shall begin July 1. A presidential appointee can be reappointed to consecutive terms, up to a maximum of six years, after which the appointee is ineligible for appointment for one year.

3.4 Vacancies

A senate seat shall be declared vacant if a senator (1) resigns, (2) is terminated, (3) goes on extended medical leave, (4) will otherwise be unavailable for more than half of the academic year, (5) misses two regularly scheduled meetings during an academic year without arranging for an alternate, or (6) misses four regularly scheduled senate meetings during any one academic year even if he or she has arranged for alternates, or (7) is no longer a member of the faculty of the academic unit from which he or she was elected. The Executive Secretary of the Senate reports all vacancies to the Committee on Committees. For vacancies an alternate elected senator will be appointed by the affected academic dean or vice president to fill the seat in accordance with policies 402.3.2. For vacancies among Presidential appointees, the president shall appoint a new Senator within 30 days.

402.4 RECORDS; AGENDA; MINUTES; ORDER OF BUSINESS

4.1 Records

The records of the Senate shall be kept by the Executive Secretary for the use of the members of the faculty, the president of the university, and the Board of Trustees. Records are public unless otherwise specified by action of the Senate in accord with state law (see policy 402.8).

Under the supervision of the President of the Faculty Senate, the Executive Secretary shall ensure that Senate actions approved by the president of the university, or where necessary by the President and the Board of Trustees (see policy 402.2.2), are distributed to faculty on all campuses within an appropriate time frame and included in the Senate records.

4.2 Agenda and Minutes

(1) Senate agenda.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least 14 days in advance of regularly scheduled Senate meetings to prepare the agenda and make assignments to those who are to report to the Senate. A copy of the agenda must be sent to each senator at least five days before regularly scheduled meetings.

(2) Faculty petition to place an item on the agenda.

Any 25 faculty members may petition the Senate to obtain consideration of any matter within the Senate's authority. The petition shall be presented in writing to any Senate member, who shall then give notice of the petition to the Senate or to its Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall place the matter raised in the petition on the agenda of the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting or, at the discretion of the Senate President, on the agenda of a special meeting called in accordance with the provisions of policy 402.6.2.

(3) Distribution of agenda and minutes.

One week prior to each Senate meeting, the Executive Secretary shall make available to all faculty a copy of the agenda of the next meeting, and minutes of the prior Senate meeting.

(4) Publicizing and publication of recommended changes in policies or procedures.

Under the supervision of the President of the Faculty Senate, the Executive Secretary shall ensure that Senate actions recommending a change in this policy or in other university policies or procedures are communicated in a timely manner to all campuses.

4.3 Order of Business

Except as otherwise provided by the Senate, its order of business shall be: call to order (quorum), approval of minutes, announcements, university business, information items, consent agenda, key issues and action items, new business, and old business.

402.5 PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE

All actions of the Senate shall be in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

402.6 MEETINGS; QUORUM

6.1 Scheduled Meetings

Regularly scheduled meetings of the Senate shall be held on the first Monday of the month at 3:00 PM from September through May unless otherwise specified by the Senate.

6.2 Special Meetings

Special meetings shall be held at the call of the Senate President or upon petition of any 10 senators. The petition must be written, must state the purpose of the special meeting, and must be submitted to the Senate President. Upon receipt of the petition, the Senate President must call a special meeting within 12 working days. Senators shall receive at least five days notice of the special meeting and its agenda unless a majority of them waives that notice prior to or at the meeting.

6.3 Quorum and Voting

A majority of the members of the Senate shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of Senate business. All actions or recommendations of the Senate shall be by majority vote of the members and alternates present. Voting shall be by secret ballot upon passage of a motion to that effect.

6.4 Consulting with Constituents

The elected senators shall communicate and/or meet regularly with their constituents to answer questions and discuss Senate business.

402.7 SENATE PRESIDENT, PRESIDENT-ELECT, AND PAST PRESIDENT

7.1 Duties of the Senate President

The Senate President shall preside over and conduct meetings of the Senate and its Executive Committee and the Faculty Forum and its Executive Committee. The Senate President shall see that Senate actions are accurately recorded and that all actions approved are implemented or forwarded as appropriate.

7.2 Duties of the Senate President-Elect

The Senate President-Elect shall perform the functions and duties of the Senate President when the latter is unable to exercise them or when the Senate President-Elect is designated by the Senate President to perform in the Senate President's stead.

7.3 Duties of the Immediate Past President

The immediate past president shall serve as a voting member of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and Faculty Senate for a period of one year immediately following his/her term as Senate President. The immediate past Senate President shall also serve as a member of the Senate Handbook Committee (see policy 402.12.10).

7.4 Eligibility and Term

The Senate President-Elect/President shall be elected annually from and by elected Senate members, as provided in policy 402.10.3, to serve for a three-year, non-renewable term. During the first year he/she shall serve as the Senate President-Elect, during the second year shall be the Senate President, and during the third year shall serve as Past President.

Any elected senator who is completing or has completed one year of a faculty Senate term is eligible to serve as President-Elect/President, subject to the following exceptions: Senators who are completing their terms are not eligible, unless they have been re-elected to the Senate for an additional term. The election of the Senate President-Elect/President is understood to be an extension of that individual's term in the Senate for the number of years necessary to fulfill a term as Senate President. If an extended term is necessary for the new Senate President, then the individual so chosen will become a supernumerary member of the Senate and the regular schedule of elections to the Senate from that individual's college will be unaffected.

402.8 SENATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

An Executive Secretary of the Senate shall be appointed by the president of the university. See policy 401.10. The duties of the Executive Secretary are: (1) under the direction of the Senate President, to prepare agendas for all meetings of the Senate, the Faculty Forum, and the Executive Committees of each; (2) under the direction of the Senate President, to keep minutes of the meetings of the Senate, the Faculty Forum, and the Executive Committees of each; (3) to distribute copies of both agenda and minutes; (4) to forward actions, policies, and reports of the Senate to the president of the university; (5) to gather items and data that the Executive Committee may present at Senate meetings; (6) to prepare and present, at the September and March Senate meetings, an accounting of the implementation or non-implementation of motions passed by the Senate; (7) to apprise Senate committees of items which the Senate has requested that they study; (8) to maintain an archive of the minutes of each meeting of the Senate and its Executive Committee, the Faculty Forum and its Executive Committee, and the Senate committees; (9) to keep university faculty informed of the action and the proposed business of the Senate by publicizing the Senate agenda, Senate actions, and the results of Senate elections as provided in policy 402.4.2(3); and to provide yearly each senator with a copy of the Senator's Handbook (policy 402.2.3).

402.9 FACULTY FORUM

9.1 Membership of the Faculty Forum; Description

Faculty Forum consists of all elected Senate members, and the chairs of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee, the Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee, the Faculty Diversity, Development and Equity Committee, and the Faculty Evaluation Committee. The Faculty Forum meetings are a means of open discussion for elected Senate members and the committee chairs without participation by or from the president of the university, the executive vice president and provost, the presidential appointees, academic deans and department heads, chancellors, regional campus deans, or the student members of the Senate, unless specifically requested by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Forum (see Policy 402.9.3(2)). During meetings of the Faculty Forum, participants may discuss subjects of current interest, question and debate any policies and procedures, and formulate recommendations for consideration by the Faculty Senate. The Faculty Forum does not exercise the legislative authority of the Faculty Senate.

9.2 Meetings; Agenda; Notice

The Faculty Forum shall convene at and in lieu of the regularly scheduled November meeting of the Senate. This annual scheduled meeting of the Faculty Forum will be open to all faculty members to attend and speak, with the exception of those excluded by policy 402.9.1.

Additional special meetings may be held by the call of the Faculty Forum President, or upon the written request of a majority of the Faculty Forum Executive Committee, or upon the written petition of 10 members of the Faculty Forum, or upon the written petition of 25 faculty members. Special meetings of the Faculty Forum will be scheduled, whenever possible, within two weeks after receipt of the petition(s) by the Faculty Forum President. Business at special meetings of the Faculty Forum will be conducted by Faculty Forum members. The Faculty Forum Executive Committee will set the agenda for the November meeting and other Faculty Forum meetings. The agenda will include all items raised by the petition(s), together with items deemed pertinent by the Executive Committee. The minutes and agenda for all Faculty Forum meetings shall be distributed in accordance with policy 402.4.2(3). Notice of the November Faculty Forum meeting will be given in the October Senate meeting and distributed to faculty on all campuses.

9.3 Officers and Executive Committee of the Faculty Forum

(1) Officers.

The Senate President shall preside over and conduct meetings of the Faculty Forum and its Executive Committee. The Senate President-Elect shall serve as the President-Elect of both, and shall perform the duties of the Senate President when the latter is unable to exercise them or when the Senate President-Elect is designated by the Senate President to perform in the Senate President's stead.

(2) Executive Committee of the Faculty Forum.

The Faculty Forum Executive Committee shall consist of the elected faculty members on the Senate Executive Committee (policy 402.12).

402.10 SENATE ELECTIONS

10.1 Apportionment of Elected Faculty Positions

Annually, the Senate Committee on Committees shall apportion the number of elective Senate positions to the academic colleges, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library in proportion to the number of tenured and tenure-eligible faculty. The minimum representation from each of these academic units shall be one.

10.2 Election of Faculty Members to the Senate

(1) Scheduled date; notice to academic deans, the vice president for extension and agriculture, vice provost of regional campuses and distance education, and chancellor.

Elections of faculty representatives to the Senate and sufficient alternate senators to serve when regular senators cannot attend, are held by academic colleges, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library. Elections shall be supervised by the Senate Committee on Committees. Elections shall be conducted during January and February of each school year, in time to be announced at the March meeting of the Senate. Additional elections shall be held as necessary to ensure the availability of alternates to fill vacancies in unexpired terms for the duration of those terms. The Senate Committee on Committees shall notify the appropriate academic deans, or vice president for extension and agriculture, chancellor, or the vice provost of regional campuses and distance education of the number of senators to be elected annually by their faculty and the date by which the elections must be held.

(2) Nominations.

After receipt of notice that annual elections shall be held, the appropriate academic deans or vice president for extension and agriculture, chancellor, or vice provost of regional campuses and distance education shall communicate with their faculty members eligible to vote in Senate elections (see policy 401.4.3 for limitations) for the purpose of nominating Senate candidates and alternates. There shall be at least two candidates for each vacancy.

(3) Voting.

Faculty members with tenured or tenure-eligible appointments and faculty members with term appointments may nominate and vote for candidates and alternates in Senate elections. Balloting within each academic college, the Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library shall be by an appropriate method to ensure timeliness, fairness, and verifiability.

(4) Verification and notice of election results.

The academic colleges, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library must submit the names of nominees elected to the Senate Committee on Committees on or before the final date set for the conclusion of elections. The Committee on Committees shall verify all election results and then inform the Senate of the names of new members at its regularly scheduled April meeting. Election results shall be made public.

10.3 Elections within the Senate

Nominations for the office of President-Elect shall occur from the floor during the April Senate meeting. Elections shall be by secret ballot completed prior to the May meeting.

402.11 SENATE COMMITTEES: AUTHORITY, ACTION AND PROCEDURES

11.1 Purpose; Reporting

The Senate appoints and discontinues such standing and ad hoc committees as it deems necessary to carry out its duties.

The Senate establishes advisory committees to study and to make reports and recommendations to it on matters under faculty jurisdiction and to carry out the decisions of the Senate relating to its functions and responsibilities. Senate committees receive their authority from the Senate and shall report their work and make their recommendations to the Senate. No Senate committee may alter the reports or the recommendations of another Senate committee.

11.2 Membership; Elections; Terms; Vacancies

Only members of the faculty eligible to vote in Senate elections are eligible for election and appointment to Senate standing committees (see policy 401.4.3(4) (c) for limitations).

Unless governed by committee procedures otherwise stipulated, non-Senators of Senate standing committees are elected at the same time and according to the same procedures that elect Senators (see policy 402.10.2). Terms shall be three years and shall begin July 1 following elections and are renewable once, after which a faculty member is ineligible to stand for election for one year. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately 1/3 of them expire annually.

A vacancy shall be declared among the elected committee members if that member resigns, is terminated, goes on extended medical leave, or has four or more unexcused absences from regularly scheduled committee meetings during an academic year. If a vacancy occurs, then a replacement will be appointed. The Senate Committee on Committees will appoint seats vacated by representatives of the Faculty Senate, and the academic deans, vice president for extension and agriculture, chancellor, or vice provost of regional campuses and distance education, will appoint seats vacated by representatives of the academic colleges, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library .

Appointed members of Senate standing committees are chosen from the elected membership of the Senate; the Committee on Committees prepares a slate of nominations for approval by the Senate at its May meeting. Terms shall be two or three years, as stated below for a particular committee, and shall be renewable once. Terms shall be staggered. Vacancies will be filled upon recommendation to the Senate by the Committee on Committees.

11.3 Senate Committee Procedures

(1) Committee action; meetings; quorum; majority and minority reports.

Senate committees shall not act independently of the Senate. All statements and actions of Senate committees shall be approved by the Senate before they are official, except for routine actions of the Educational Policies Committee which shall be submitted to the Senate as information items (see policy 402.12.6(1)). Committee work shall be accomplished as a body. Committee meetings shall be held as required to meet the duties of the committee. Meetings shall be held at the call of the chair or upon written request, submitted to the chair, by committee members or the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. A majority of committee members shall constitute a quorum for conducting business. Committee actions shall be by majority vote of the quorum present. Minority committee reports may be submitted to the Senate by dissenting committee members.

(2) Committee minutes.

Minutes shall be taken at all committee meetings and a copy shall be filed with the Senate Executive Secretary as part of the Senate records. The minutes shall include copies of all forms, statements, and reports which are presented to the Senate for action.

(3) Chairs.

Unless otherwise specified, all standing committees and subcommittees of the Senate shall elect chairs annually, preferably at the last meeting of the academic year.

402.12 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES

12.1 Executive Committee

(1) Duties.

The Executive Committee shall perform the following duties:

- (a) prepare Senate meeting agendas;
- (b) propose such standing and special committees of the Senate as may be needed;
- (c) examine the work of the Senate committees to discourage duplication of effort and to ensure that all committee assignments are carried out;
- (d) act as a steering committee to direct problems to the proper committees;

- (e) act as a liaison to harmonize the work of all committees;
- (f) transact such business as may be referred to it by the Senate; and

(2) Membership.

The Senate Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:

- (a) the Senate President;
- (b) the President-Elect of the Senate;
- (c) immediate Past President;
- (d) elected faculty senators, representing each of the academic colleges, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library;
- (e) the president of the university and executive vice president and provost, who shall serve as ex-officio members; and
- (f) a senator appointed by the president and approved by the Senate.

All members have a vote.

(3) Eligibility; election; term.

Any elected senator who is completing or has completed one year of a Senate term is eligible to serve on the Executive Committee, subject to the following exceptions: (1) Senators with only one year remaining in their terms; and (2) Senators who are completing their terms, unless they have been re-elected to the Senate for an additional, successive term.

The election of Executive Committee members shall be conducted each spring following the election of new members to the Senate. Elections shall be by separate caucus of faculty senators within each academic college, Regional Campuses, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library. Caucuses shall be held within one week following the April meeting of the Senate.

A faculty senator elected to the Executive Committee shall serve for a two-year term, renewable (reelected) once.

(4) Joint meeting of new and old Executive Committees.

Newly elected Executive Committee members will attend the April meeting of the old Executive Committee.

(5) Meetings; Senate agenda.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least 14 days in advance of regularly scheduled Senate meetings to prepare the agenda and make assignments to those who are to report to the Senate.

(6) Reports and recommendations of other Senate committees.

The Executive Committee will place reports and recommendations of other Senate committees on the Senate agenda without alteration.

12.2 Committee on Committees (CoC)

The responsibility of the Committee on Committees is to: (1) apportion Senate elective positions annually; (2) coordinate and supervise the election of members to the Senate; (3) prepare eligibility slates and supervise nominations and elections within the Senate; and (4) recommend to the Senate the appointed members of all Senate committees and the members of university committees that include Senate representatives.

The Committee on Committees shall consist of three elected faculty senators. They are elected according to the same procedures, at the same time, and with the same eligibility restrictions that govern election of the Senate President-Elect. See policy 402.10.3 and 7.3. Members of the Committee on Committees serve two-year terms. They elect a chair from within their membership.

12.3 Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee (AFT)

(1) Duties.

(a) Jurisdiction as an administrative hearing body.

The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, as represented by each of its hearing panels is an administrative hearing body, with jurisdiction in matters related to academic freedom, tenure, promotion, dismissals, and other sanctions; and actions alleged not to be in accordance with the adopted standards, policies, and procedures of the university. In relation to these matters, the committee may hear both complaints initiated by the university against a faculty member and grievance petitions brought by a faculty member.

(b) Procedural due process.

Hearing panels of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee shall, when hearing grievances, determine whether procedural due process was granted the petitioner as provided in this policy and determine whether the grievance is valid or not valid (see policy 407.6.6(8)) The recommendation of the hearing panel shall be binding on the general membership of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee.

(c) Policy revisions.

The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee shall recommend to the Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee possible policy revisions arising from within the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee's jurisdiction.

(d) Review.

The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee will review, for consideration by the Senate, all matters pertaining to faculty rights, academic freedom, and tenure.

(2) Membership.

The Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee consists of the following members:

(a) one faculty member elected by and from the faculty in each academic college, Regional Campus, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library, and (b) three faculty members appointed from the elected faculty senators by the Committee on Committees.

(3) Election and appointment of members; terms.

Committee members elected from the faculty shall be elected and will serve terms in accordance with policy 402.11.2. Committee members appointed from the Senate shall be selected in accordance with policy 402.12.2(4) and will serve three year terms (see also policy 402.11.2).

(4) Officers.

(a) Eligibility; election; term. No later than the last day of the Spring semester (before the terms of the newly elected members begin), the Committee shall elect from among its members a new chair and vice chair, each to serve a one-year term beginning July 1. Any member who has at least one year remaining in a committee term or who has been re-elected to an additional, successive term is eligible to serve as chair or vice chair.

(b) Responsibilities of the chair and vice chair. The chair shall set the agenda for and preside at Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee meetings, and appoint hearing panels as required. In the absence of the chair, the vice chair shall assume these duties. The vice chair shall be responsible for the recording of the minutes.

(5) Supplemental appointments.

If necessary in order to hear grievances in a timely manner, supplemental members of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee may be appointed by the Committee on Committees from the elected members of the Senate. This appointment process shall be initiated by the chair of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. The term of these appointees shall expire June 30 following appointment.

(6) Hearing panels.

Hearing panels shall be appointed as necessary to hear grievances. Four members shall be appointed by the chair of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee from the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, and the remaining member shall be an administrator who holds a faculty appointment appointed by the president of the university. Faculty members of hearing panels shall be selected by the chair of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee on a rotating basis. All five panel members have a vote. Even if their Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee terms expire, hearing panel members shall serve until the recommendation of the hearing panel has been submitted to the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee and to the president of the university.

12.4 Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee (BFW)

(1) Duties.

The duties of the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee are to (a) participate in the university budget preparation process; (b) periodically evaluate and report to the Senate on matters relating to faculty salaries, insurance programs, retirement benefits, sabbatical leaves, consulting policies, and other faculty benefits; (c) review the financial and budgetary implications of proposals for changes in academic degrees and programs, and report to the Senate prior to Senate action relating to such proposals; (d) report to the Senate significant fiscal and budgetary trends which may affect the academic programs of the university; and (e) provide faculty representatives for the Benefits Advisory Committee (BAC).

(2) Membership.

The membership, election, and appointment of members; term of members; officers; and meetings and quorum of the Budget and Faculty Welfare Committee shall be parallel to those of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, as stated in policy 402.12.3(2) through 12.3(5).

12.5 Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee (PRPC)

(1) Duties.

The Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee shall advise the Faculty Senate regarding composition, interpretation, and revision of Section 400 in University Policies and Procedures. Recommended revisions shall be submitted to the Senate for its consideration.

(2) Membership.

The membership, election, and appointment of members; term of members; officers; and meetings and quorum of the Professional Responsibilities and Procedures Committee shall be parallel to those of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, as stated in policy 402.12.3(2) through 12.3(5).

12.6 Educational Policies Committee (EPC)

(1) Duties.

The major function of this committee shall be to serve as the Senate committee on educational policy, including program discontinuance for academic reasons (policy 406.2). In addition to conducting studies and making recommendations as specifically instructed by the Senate, the committee itself may initiate such activities. Routine actions taken under established policy, such as approval for specific course changes, additions, or deletions, shall be submitted to the Senate as information items. All policy recommendations and major actions shall be referred to the Senate for approval or disapproval. Specific duties of the Educational Policies Committee shall

include consideration of standards and requirements for university designated honors such as cum laude, magna cum laude, and summa cum laude.

(2) Membership.

The Educational Policies Committee consists of the executive vice president and provost or designee; one faculty representative from each academic college, Regional Campus, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library; one faculty representative from the Graduate Council; the chairs of the EPC Curriculum Subcommittee, General Education Subcommittee, Academic Standards Subcommittee, two student officers from the elected ASUSU student government and one student officer from the GSS. The faculty representatives are elected to the committee in accordance with policy 402.11.2.

(3) Term of members.

The term of office for faculty members on the Educational Policies Committee shall be in accordance with policy 402.11.2. The term of office for student members shall be one year and shall coincide with the term of ASUSU and GSS officers.

(4) Chair.

The executive vice president and provost or his/her designated representative shall serve as chair of the Educational Policies Committee. The Committee will elect a vice chair from its members to serve in the absence of the chair. The chair or his/her designee will report to the Senate on the committee's actions.

(5) Curriculum Subcommittee.

The Curriculum Subcommittee will formulate recommendations on curricular matters, such as course changes, and forward the same to the Educational Policies Committee. This subcommittee shall consist of the chairs of the curriculum committee of each academic college, three faculty members appointed from the elected membership of the Educational Policies Committee, one faculty representative from each Regional Campus, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library, and two students, one from the ASUSU and one from the GSS. The terms of Educational Policies Committee members on the subcommittee will correspond to their terms on the Educational Policies Committee. The term of office for student members shall be one year and shall coincide with the term of ASUSU and GSS officers. The subcommittee shall elect a chair annually, preferably at the last meeting of the academic year.

(6) General Education Subcommittee.

The General Education Subcommittee formulates and reviews policy with respect to general education. The subcommittee shall consist of three faculty members and one student appointed from the Educational Policies Committee. Their terms will correspond to their Educational Policies Committee terms. Additional members may be appointed to the subcommittee for two-year terms by the Educational Policies Committee to lend academic expertise to the areas of

emphasis in the general education program of the university. Recommendations developed by the General Education Subcommittee will be submitted to the Educational Policies Committee. The subcommittee shall elect a chair annually, preferably at the last meeting of the academic year.

(7) Academic Standards Subcommittee.

The Academic Standards Subcommittee (a) recommends policy on all matters pertaining to academic evaluation of students, including admission, retention, grade assignment, and graduation; (b) recommends discipline policy regarding student academic dishonesty; and (c) approves the process for discipline regarding alleged academic violations by students and for grievance hearings in cases of alleged student academic dishonesty. The subcommittee shall consist of four faculty members and one student appointed from the Educational Policies Committee. Their terms will correspond to their Educational Policies Committee terms. Additional members may be appointed to the subcommittee for two-year terms by the Educational Policies Committee to lend expertise.

Recommendations from this subcommittee will be submitted to the Educational Policies Committee. The subcommittee shall elect a chair annually, preferably at the last meeting of the academic year.

12.7 Faculty Evaluation Committee (FEC)

(1) Duties.

The Faculty Evaluation Committee shall (a) assess methods for evaluating faculty performance; (b) recommend improvements in methods of evaluation; and (c) decide university awards for Professor and Advisor of the Year.

(2) Membership.

The committee shall consist of one faculty representative from each academic college, Regional Campus, USU-CEU, Extension, and the Library, two student officers from the ASUSU and one student officer from the GSS. The faculty representatives are elected to the committee in accordance with policy 402.11.2. The committee will elect a chair annually, preferably at the last meeting of the academic year.

12.8 Faculty Diversity, Development, and Equity Committee (FDDE)

(1) Duties.

The duties of the Faculty Diversity, Development, and Equity Committee are to: (1) collect data and identify and promote best practices for faculty development, mentoring, and work environment to facilitate the success of diverse faculty at all career levels; (2) provide feedback and advocate processes for faculty recruitment, promotion, and retention that promote diversity, fair pay standards, and work/life balance for the faculty; (3) report on the status of faculty

development, mentoring, diversity, and equity; and (4) make recommendations for implementation of proposals related to faculty diversity, development, and equity.

(2) Membership.

The membership, election, and appointment of members; term of members; officers; and meetings and quorum of the Diversity, Development, and Equity Committee shall be parallel to those of the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, as stated in policy 402.12.3(2) through 12.3(5).

12.9 Executive Committee of the Faculty Forum (ECFF)

The Executive Committee of the Faculty Forum shall have the duty of composing the agenda for the annual meeting and any special meetings of the Faculty Forum. The membership of this committee shall consist of the elected members of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee excluding administrators (see policy 402.12.1(2a-2d)).

12.10 Senate Handbook Committee (SHC)

The Senate Handbook Committee composes and/or revises annually the Senate Handbook (policy 402.2.3). This committee consists of the Faculty Senate President, President-Elect of the Senate, and the Past President of the Senate. Additional members may be appointed by the Committee on Committees.

402.13 UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES WITH FACULTY REPRESENTATIVES

The Senate Committee on Committees recommends to the Senate faculty members to be appointed to the following university councils, boards, and committees: Athletic Council, Graduate Council, University Research Council, Council on Teacher Education, University Libraries Advisory Council, Honors Program Advisory Board, University Scheduling Committee, Calendar Committee, Bookstore Committee, Honorary Degrees and Awards Screening Committee, Diversity Council, and Parking Policy Committee. The faculty representative need not be a Senate member unless his/her role on the council or committee is to represent the Senate specifically as well as the faculty generally. See also policy 402.10.3, 11.2 and 12.2(4). In the spirit of shared governance, at the Regional Campuses and USU-CEU, the chancellor and regional campus deans will establish procedures whereby faculty members on those campuses can be actively engaged and represented in key local decisions parallel to the councils and committees described in this paragraph.