**Three Motions put forward by the Nominations and Elections Committee concerning the beginning and ending dates of Faculty Senate terms, membership of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, and eligibility of nominees for faculty governance offices, Chair John Rupe.**

The Nominations and Elections Committee was asked by Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Mary Savin to formulate motions addressing the ability to hold Senate meetings during the summer, the makeup of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and who should be eligible to run for faculty senate offices.

**Beginning and ending dates of Faculty Senate terms**. Increasingly, issues arise during the summer that require Faculty Senate action. In the past, the Faculty Senate did not meet in the summer. The Faculty Senate could cede authority for these decisions to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee during the summer, but this might not adequately represent the university faculty on some issues as would a meeting of the whole senate. Since meetings and votes can be held virtually, summer meetings of the senate would be possible and would better serve the needs of the campus faculty than delegating that responsibility to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Board Policy 810.1, Article 1 C.2 states that the Faculty Senate Chair can call a meeting of the faculty at any time provided they give a five-day notice. This implies that the Faculty Senate can meet during the summer as do some faculty committees. If a summer session is held, then there is a question of who makes up the Faculty senate in the summer. Traditionally out-going senator’s terms end with the last meeting in the spring and new senator’s terms begin with the first Faculty Senate meeting in the fall (May and September, respectively) so it is not clear if the outgoing Faculty Senators continue in the Senate until September or if the newly elected senators should serve in the Senate during the summer. Board Policy 810.1, Article 1 B.2 states: *The term of office for officers of the faculty shall begin July 1*. Since the Senate officers’ terms begin July 1, incoming Senators’ terms should also begin on that date.

*Motion 1 from the Nominations and Elections Committee*: We recommend changes to Board of Trustees Policy 810.1 Article II Section B, points 4 and 7.

Existing:

The members of each separate faculty (identified in Article III, Section A. 1.) who are eligible to vote shall elect for staggered two-year terms one Faculty Senate representative for each 25 such members of that that separate faculty, except that each separate faculty shall be entitled to at least one representative. Each separate faculty shall establish its own procedures for the election of these representatives, provided that all faculty, who are eligible to vote and serve (identified in Article 1, Section A. 5.) are included in the election process.

Campus-wide representatives shall be elected to the Faculty Senate for staggered two-year terms, the number of campus-wide representatives to be equal to 12.

Proposed change:

The members of each separate faculty (identified in Article III, Section A. 1.) who are eligible to vote shall elect for staggered two-year terms one Faculty Senate representative for each 25 such members of that that separate faculty, except that each separate faculty shall be entitled to at least one representative.  Faculty Senate terms shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.  Each separate faculty shall establish its own procedures for the election of these representatives, provided that all faculty, who are eligible to vote and serve (identified in Article 1, Section A. 5.) are included in the election process.

Campus-wide representatives shall be elected to the Faculty Senate for staggered two-year terms, the number of campus-wide representatives to be equal to 12.  Faculty Senate terms shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30.

**Makeup of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee:** Concern has been expressed that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee does not fairly represent the diverse faculty on campus. The Executive Committee members are elected in the September meeting of the Faculty Senate. Newly elected senators often feel ill prepared to make this vote since they are often not familiar with the other senators or with the function of the Executive Committee. This may lead to electing committee members who have the greatest name recognition and from colleges with the largest number of senators. In addition, only five senators are elected to the Executive committee and so cannot represent each of the eight separate faculties (colleges and schools) represented in the Faculty Senate. Additionally, since membership to the Executive Committee is decided at the September senate meeting, the Executive Committee from the previous year must decide on the September meeting’s agenda. An alternative to the current practice would be to have each separate faculty (ARCH, AFLS, ARSC, WCOB, EDHP, ENGR, LAW, LIBR) select a representative from their senators to serve on the Executive Committee. The selection would occur at the end of the spring semester and their term begin on July 1. In addition, membership of the Executive Committee includes the Chair of Campus Council, but does not include the Faculty Senate Secretary or Parliamentarian. It is important to have input from Campus Council on the Executive Committee, but, since the Chair of Campus Council may not be a faculty member and is not selected by the Faculty Senate, the Chair of Campus Council should be a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. While the Faculty Senate Secretary and the Faculty Senate Parliamentarian are usually both faculty members and both play vital roles in the operation of the Faculty Senate, they are not selected by the Faculty Senate and should also be non-voting members of the Executive Committee.

*Motion 2 form the Nominations and Elections Committee:* Change the description of the Executive Committee as stated in the description of the “Faculty Senate Executive Committee,” on the U of A Faculty Senate website ([https://facultysenate.uark.edu](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Ffacultysenate.uark.edu%2F&data=04%7C01%7Cjrupe%40uark.edu%7C719afd2997b4447ee22708d99256ad8b%7C79c742c4e61c4fa5be89a3cb566a80d1%7C0%7C0%7C637701723548680452%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=wIKWPJa1NuCAjXej6Lx%2B0UYQqExndGoBJdJ%2Fz%2FRSsBQ%3D&reserved=0)):

Existing:  The Executive Committee will prepare the Faculty Senate agenda. At the request of the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the committee will recommend new policies or modifications to existing policies concerning matters regarding faculty service at this institution.  It shall also be available to advise the Chairs of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate on matters of pressing faculty concern.  Its membership shall consist of the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate who shall chair committee, the Chair of the Campus Council, the immediate past Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Campus Faculty Chair, the Campus Faculty Vice-Chair, plus five members elected by the Faculty Senate from its own membership.  Election shall take place at the first meeting of the Faculty Senate each fall semester.

Proposed Change: The Executive Committee will prepare the Faculty Senate agenda. At the request of the Chair of the Faculty Senate, the committee will recommend new policies or modifications to existing policies concerning matters regarding faculty service at this institution.  It shall also be available to advise the Chairs of the Faculty and the Faculty Senate on matters of pressing faculty concern.  Its membership shall consist of the Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate who shall chair committee, the Chair of the Campus Council (non-voting), the immediate past Chair of the Faculty Senate, the Campus Faculty Chair, the Campus Faculty Vice Chair, the Faculty Senate Secretary (non-voting), and the Faculty Senate Parliamentarian (non-voting).  Each Separate faculty (as defined in BOT Policy 810.1, Section III, A. 1.—*<Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences; College of Engineering; School of Law; School of Architecture; J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences; College of Education and Health Professions; Sam M. Walton College of Business Administration; and University* *Libraries>*) will select one of their senators to serve on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.  The selection will be made before July 1.

**Eligibility to Serve in Faculty Governance:** There were questions about who can serve in faculty governance. Campus-wide elections are held each spring for Faculty Chair, At-Large Faculty Senator, and for members of the Committee on Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure. Nominations for candidates to these positions must include the signatures of at least ten faculty eligible to vote in the election of the office in question. The rules do not explicitly state who is eligible to be nominated to these positions. We propose that all nominees be faculty that are eligible to vote for that office (only tenured faculty can vote for members of the Committee on Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure).

*Motion 3 form the Nominations and Elections Committee:* Eligibility of nominees for election to the Faculty Chair, At-Large Faculty Senator and the Committee on Appointment, Promotion and Tenure must be faculty eligible to vote for those positions.

*Existing*; The Faculty Handbook, 1.5 Appendix: Rules of Procedure of the Faculty Senate, Section D.

On or before the end of the first week of classes in the Spring semester, the Committee shall issue a

call for nominations for Faculty Chair, At-Large Faculty Senator, and Committee on Appointment,

Promotion, and Tenure to be elected. The committee shall accept additional nominees for any of the

offices if each such nomination is (a) made by a petition signed by ten or more members of the faculty

eligible to vote in the election for the office in question, (b) submitted to the Committee within one

week after the call is given, and (c) accompanied by a brief biographical sketch for the nominee.

*Proposed change*: On or before the end of the first week of classes in the Spring semester, the Committee shall issue a call for nominations for Faculty Chair, At-Large Faculty Senator, and Committee on Appointment, Promotion, and Tenure to be elected. The committee shall accept additional nominees for any of the offices if each such nomination is (a) for a nominee who is eligible to vote in the election for the office in question (b) made by a petition signed by ten or more members of the faculty eligible to vote in the election for the office in question, (c) submitted to the Committee within one week after the call is given, and (d) accompanied by a brief biographical sketch for the nominee.