

Faculty Senate By-Laws

Academic Team Proposed Faculty Senate Launch

2.4.04

Revised February 2008

Mission Statement

We the faculty of Antioch University New England hereby establish a Faculty Senate in order to provide a forum in which faculty may, without restraint, freely express our thoughts on issues of specific and general concern to the members of the academic community for the purpose of promoting the general welfare of Antioch University New England. The Faculty Senate is a place to express and hear diverse points of view, develop policy, consult, and advise other Antioch constituencies on faculty matters. In this capacity, the faculty hereby establishes this Constitution creating a Faculty Senate.

Membership

Representatives and Faculty At-Large

The Faculty Senate is representative of all faculty (adjuncts, associates, core, Department Chairs, VPAA and President); who are welcome to attend and voice their opinions at all Faculty Senate meetings. This group is called "faculty-at-large."

The senate is composed of representatives who consist of two faculty from each academic department (Clinical Psychology, Applied Psychology, Education, Environmental Studies, Organization & Management, and the Library) and chosen as that department sees fit. Initially each department will have a one-year term rep and a two-year term rep. After that, terms will be two-years, on a staggered basis.

Meetings can be convened when 4 of the 6 departments are represented.

Binding decisions can only be made when a quorum is present. A quorum constitutes at least one representative (or his/her designee) from each department.

The Faculty Senate values consensual decision-making processes. When consensus cannot be reached, the Faculty Senate will operate by Robert's Rules of Order.

Any member of the faculty can ask the representatives to have a particular issue voted on by either the faculty at-large or a particular sub-group such as adjuncts, associates and or core. If two-thirds of the entire 12-member representative body support this request then either the faculty at-large or the sub-group, as defined by the representatives, will vote the issue electronically. A simple majority of the determined specified group of the faculty casting votes will determine the outcome of the issue.

Officers

The representatives will choose a Senate President, Vice President and any other officers from the body of representatives as needed.

The Faculty Senate President may appoint committees and committee chairs as needed from the Faculty Senate or Faculty to report committee updates, as appropriate, back to the faculty via the Faculty Senate.

The President receives a three credit course reduction or equivalent monetary compensation each year in office. The Vice President receives a two credit course reduction or equivalent monetary compensation each year in office. The money for these compensations will come from the Administrative budget, not the Departments' budgets.

Meeting Times and Communications

The Senate will meet at least once a month during the academic year. Meeting days will be rotated to accommodate department needs. The representatives will determine the meeting days.

All Senate meetings and their agenda will be posted electronically at least one-week in advance of meetings.

All decisions and appropriate Senate business will be made public in a Faculty Senate FirstClass folder.

Process for Amending Bylaws

Bylaws can be amended by two-thirds of the entire 12-member representative body.

Role and Responsibilities

The Senate will serve the following functions with respect to department autonomy:

- 1) Serve as a forum for faculty interaction across departmental lines as well as to sponsor additional venues for such interactions, and ensure faculty representation in campus and university initiatives and ensure that procedures are in place for faculty representation
- 2) Propose and develop academic policies and procedures in conjunction with other governance structures in the New England campus and University (not including oversight of faculty hiring or specific course offerings).
- 3) Oversee, Review, and Advise on academic and faculty policies in conjunction with the Academic Administration and department chairs.
- 4) Participate in the process for approving academic degree programs at early stages of conception.
- 5) Advise other institutional decision-makers on any and all other matters of concern to the faculty.
- 6) Facilitate cross-department faculty collaboration.
- 7) Solicit input from and provide regular evaluative feedback to senior administrators.

The Faculty Senate will determine the specific duties and responsibilities related to each of these functions.