

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE

BYLAWS

[August 2017]

COMMITTEES

(1) The following committees shall be permanent (“standing”) committees of the Faculty Senate. A quorum for meeting, discussion, and voting shall be 50%.¹

- Academic Standards and Policies
- Admissions and Enrollment
- Curriculum
- Elections
- Faculty Development
- Steering
- University Life
- Diversity

(2) The permanent committees shall have the following duties:

(A) Academic Standards and Policies

The committee shall review policies that affect students’ academic progress and success, at both undergraduate and graduate levels, including advising, rate of progress and grading. It shall be the appeals committee for students’ academic petitions. It shall act as liaison with the Center for Academic Development.

(B) Admissions and Enrollment.

The committee shall address issues regarding student admissions and transfers including diversity, retention, and graduate admissions and enrollment; and it shall review trends among other universities.

¹ The quorum of 50% (as opposed to a majority) was passed by the Senate in September 2016.

(C) Curriculum

The committee shall review undergraduate and graduate degree programs and other curricular matters, and shall review and coordinate proposals for innovation and other changes in courses and programs. It shall study and make recommendations on issues that affect curriculum such as technology, library, and study abroad. They shall follow the procedure designated in a flow chart prepared for this purpose.

(D) Diversity

The committee shall monitor, encourage, report on, and make recommendations on diversity at RWU.

(E) Elections

The Elections Committee shall be composed of five Senators. These Senators may be from any School or Division, and may serve on other Senate committees. The committee shall conduct elections to populate the Senate, its committees and its leadership positions, and any other elections as needed by the Senate or requested by the Administration upon approval of the Senate Executive Committee. All elections shall be conducted electronically.²

(F) Faculty Development

The committee shall review and facilitate the professional development of the faculty, including allocation of professional development funds, and awarding of course releases. It shall oversee the granting of the Excellence in Teaching Award.

(G) Steering

The committee shall make proposals on matters it believes the Senate should address, including the RWU mission statement and strategic planning.

(H) University Life

The committee shall make proposals toward promoting and encouraging a humane and tolerant environment at RWU through the enhancement of the university's civic culture. It shall examine the state of intellectual and cultural life at RWU.

² The Elections Committee was added to the Bylaws by Senate motion, April 5, 2017.

APPROVAL

These Bylaws shall take effect upon the ratification of the proposed 2017 constitution, or at some other date if the Senate, by majority vote of those present, so decides.