

UDC Faculty Senate Charter

Preamble:

The Faculty Senate of the University of the District of Columbia is part of the shared governance structure which is an essential right and responsibility of a scholarly community. It is a governing body with sufficient autonomy to assure academic integrity and to fulfill its responsibilities of policy and resource development consistent with the mission of the institution. Through duly constituted legislative processes, it provides for the exercise of the faculty's fundamental role in academic decisions, the implementation and preservation of academic standards, and promotion of the welfare of students. The interdependence and cooperation of administration, faculty and governing board are essential to legitimate and effective governance.

Name:

The Faculty Senate ("FS")

Purpose and Responsibilities:

The Faculty Senate shall be responsible for considering and deliberating about university standards, policies and programs and for making recommendations to the Provost and the President on matters including:

- Admission and retention of students;
- Award of degrees and certificates;
- Curricula, scholastic requirements, and academic programs; and
- Safeguarding of academic freedom.

Membership:

Voting membership shall be the following:

- One full-time faculty representative from each academic department or division of the University of the District of Columbia, one faculty representative from the David A. Clarke School of Law, one faculty representative from the Learning Resources Division, and one full-time faculty representative from each of the academic units of the Community College of the District of Columbia, elected at-large by their peers.

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- The CCDC representatives will serve in the FS and the FS will have oversight of CCDC academic standards, policies and programs until such time as the CCDC establishes a permanent or similar shared governance system, recommended by the FS, presented by the President, and approved by the Board of Trustees.
- ~~One adjunct faculty recommended by the Council of Deans and appointed by the President.~~ (April 3, 2012 recommendation by the Bylaws committee, still waiting Board approval)
- The President of the UDC Undergraduate Student Government Association.
- The President of the UDC-CC Undergraduate Student Government Association.
- The President of the UDC Graduate Student Government Association.

Non-voting membership shall be the following, serving as *ex officio*:

- The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.
- The Dean of Academic Affairs, Community College of the District of Columbia.

Officers:

- The Chair shall be elected from the full-time faculty representatives of the FS by majority vote of those present and eligible to vote, excluding abstentions, at the the **last spring** semester meeting of the FS held for the election of officers, a quorum being present.
- The Vice-Chair shall be elected from the full-time faculty representatives of the FS by majority vote of those present and eligible to vote, excluding abstentions, at the **last spring** semester meeting of the FS held for the election of officers, a quorum being present.
- The Secretary shall be elected from the members of the FS by majority vote of those present and eligible to vote, excluding abstentions, at the **last spring** semester meeting of the FS held for the election of officers, a quorum being present.
- No member of the FS shall hold more than one office concurrently.
- The term of office shall be one year and vacancies shall be filled by special election and not exceed the term of the officer being replaced.

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- An officer of the FS may be impeached and removed from office by a vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the full voting membership, a quorum being present, of a duly called and noticed meeting of the FS, for gross nonfeasance, gross misfeasance, malfeasance of office, or conviction of a felony.

Disposition of Faculty Senate Actions:

All actions of the FS shall be approved by majority vote, a quorum being present, of a duly called and noticed meeting of the FS. Those actions shall be formally transmitted to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs in the form of recommendations for review and disposition.

The Provost shall forward relevant recommendations of the FS, along with comments deemed appropriate, to the President for review and disposition and shall report to the FS on the status and disposition of all recommendations.

Amendment Process:

Amendments to this Charter which are approved by two-thirds of the eligible voting members the FS shall be presented to the Board of Trustees, through the Provost and President, for consideration and action.

NOTE: The text in yellow is used to indicate that this part is still waiting for Board approval.