

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

University Statutes and Senate Procedures  
(First Reading; Information)

SP.18.07 Proposed Revision to the *Constitution*, Article II – Faculty Representation

**BACKGROUND**

The Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials has reviewed the current apportionment formula in the *Constitution*, which consists of thresholds of 7 and 12 members in a given unit to determine the allotment of seats, or the adjusted numbers of 5 and 10 (most recently set in SP.12.08). This arrangement, however, means smaller units may not have a senator from within their ranks.

The proposed revisions below remove the specifics of the apportionment formula in Article II, Sections 3 and 4, but retain Senate approval of any modifications to the apportionment formula, which will be brought forward by Elections and Credentials. The deletion of Section 6 and the revision in Section 7 are proposed based on the forthcoming amendments to the *Election Rules for the Faculty Electorate* that would remove the nominating ballot and replace it with a nomination period in which nominations of nominees willing to serve are submitted to the voting unit. The final election would continue to be by secret ballot.

Note that elections are further specified in the *Bylaws*, Section C, which can be modified at a later date, if needed.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Upon recommendation by the Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials, the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Constitution*. Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~.

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE II**

- 1 **Section 3.** Elections shall be held on the basis of faculty voting units. A faculty voting unit is the  
2 smallest academic unit, such as the department or similar unit, in each college or analogous  
3 academic division ~~that has at least seven members of the faculty electorate.~~  
4  
5 **Section 4.** A voting unit ~~having seven members of the faculty electorate~~ is entitled to elect at  
6 least one senator from its membership. ~~For each 12 members of the faculty electorate over the~~  
7 ~~initial seven, the unit shall elect an additional senator.~~ Prior to each election, the Senate shall  
8 approve an apportionment formula to ensure that the ~~retain or adjust the numbers 7 or 12 or both~~  
9 ~~by whole numbers to ensure that after such election the total number of senators from the faculty~~  
10 electorate shall be as close to 200 as possible. The apportionment formula shall specify the

11 number of members of the faculty electorate for allotment of the first senator and a number for  
12 the allotment of each additional senator.

13  
14 ~~**Section 5.** Academic units having fewer than seven members of the faculty electorate shall be~~  
15 ~~combined with or attached to other units within the college or other analogous educational~~  
16 ~~division in which the unit is located, in such a way as to ensure opportunity for full participation~~  
17 ~~by all members of the faculty electorate.~~

18  
19 ~~**Section 6.** Each faculty voting unit shall provide to its faculty electorate a nominating ballot that~~  
20 ~~either contains the names of all those faculty who are eligible to vote in the unit except those~~  
21 ~~who are unwilling to serve, or contains the names of all those faculty who are eligible to vote in~~  
22 ~~the unit who have expressed a willingness to serve. Each member of the unit's faculty electorate~~  
23 ~~shall be entitled to cast one nominating vote for each open senatorial position apportioned to the~~  
24 ~~unit; there shall be no cumulative voting. The voting unit shall then prepare an election ballot~~  
25 ~~containing the names of those who received the highest number of nominating votes and who are~~  
26 ~~willing to serve. The number of names on the election ballot shall equal twice the number of~~  
27 ~~those to be elected or all of those nominated, if the number of those nominated is less than twice~~  
28 ~~the number to be elected. The nominees receiving the highest numbers of votes shall be deemed~~  
29 ~~elected.~~

30  
31 ~~**Section 75.** Voting ~~on nominations and~~ for elections of senators shall be by secret ballot.~~

32  
33 ~~**Section 86.** Senators shall be elected for two-year terms commencing at the beginning of the~~  
34 ~~next academic year. Provision shall be made for staggered terms so that approximately half the~~  
35 ~~Senate will be elected each year.~~

36  
37 ~~**Section 97.** Vacancies shall be filled by election of a member of the voting unit for the remainder~~  
38 ~~of the vacant term in accordance with the ~~nomination and~~ election procedures prescribed in this~~  
39 ~~Article.~~

Renumber remaining sections accordingly.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

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