CONSTITUTION OF THE WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY GOVERNMENT

The purpose of this Constitution is to establish an organization through which faculty personnel and students may share in the formulation of academic policy. The authority and responsibility of this organization is determined through the authority delegated to the president of the University by the Utah State Board of Higher Education. Having grown out of the mutual trust and respect that exists between the faculty, administration and students of Weber State University, the academic government shall strive constantly to aid in achieving the aims of the entire University.

ARTICLE C-I. THE GENERAL FACULTY

Section 1. Membership

The general faculty membership shall be composed of faculty members holding full-time salaried appointments, with the rank of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, or title of instructor, and whose primary function is that of instruction but who may also hold administrative appointments at the organizational level of department chair or lower. Each member of the general faculty shall have voting power and shall have representation through an organizational unit as defined in the Bylaws.

Section 2. Officers

The chair and the vice chair elected by the Faculty Senate from among the faculty members of the Executive Committee shall preside as chair and vice chair respectively of the general faculty.

Section 3. Meetings

Meetings shall be held
  3.1 on the call of the president or chair;
  3.2 on the call of the Faculty Senate;
  3.3 on the written petition of 10 percent of the general faculty.

ARTICLE C-II. FACULTY SENATE
Section 1. Name
There is hereby created the Weber State University Faculty Senate which shall be the deliberative and legislative agency of the academic community and hereinafter shall be referred to as the Faculty Senate.

Section 2. Powers

2.1 Formulation of Policy
The Faculty Senate, subject to the provisions of state and federal law, subject to consistency with the general objectives established by the Board of Trustees, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees and subject to the referendum power of the general faculty, has legislative power on educational policies and academic procedures. The Faculty Senate shall formulate policy concerning the following:

2.1.1 standards for admission and retention of students;
2.1.2 requirements for all degrees, certificates, titles, etc.);
2.1.3 curriculum;
2.1.4 appointment, promotion, tenure and dismissal of faculty personnel;
2.1.5 standards for student activities and general student conduct;
2.1.6 academic freedom for faculty personnel;
2.1.7 grievances which may arise;
2.1.8 formulation of bylaws governing all nominations and elections provided for in the faculty Constitution and governing such other procedures and processes as require detailed clarification.
2.1.9 The listing of the foregoing functions shall not be construed as denying the Faculty Senate other functions of concern to the general faculty.

The Faculty Senate is authorized to recommend policy on the following matters:

2.1.10 expenditure of funds allocated for instruction, research and travel;
2.1.11 faculty salaries, annuities, insurance programs and leaves of absence;
2.1.12 selection and retention of academic administrators;
2.1.13 teaching load of faculty personnel.

2.2 Establishment and Maintenance of Committees
The Faculty Senate shall establish and maintain standing and ad hoc committees as it deems necessary to carry out its functions.

2.3 Ratification and Review of Policy by General Faculty
No new University policy shall become effective by action of the Faculty Senate until the general faculty shall have had an opportunity to review it.

2.3.1 Distribution of Minutes -- an abstract of the minutes of all Faculty Senate meetings shall be distributed to the general faculty.
2.3.2 Challenging Senate Action -- the general faculty may challenge decisions made by the Faculty Senate as established in the Bylaws.
2.4 Emergency Business

When a majority of the Faculty Senate is not able to meet, the Executive Committee shall be empowered to act upon matters of routine or emergency business in accordance with established University policy.

Section 3. Membership

The Faculty Senate shall consist of designated administrative members, elected members of the general faculty, elected adjunct faculty members, and appointed student members chosen in ratios proportionate to the number of members in each organizational unit as hereinafter provided in the Bylaws. The number of elected members shall be determined by maintaining not less than a one (1) to three (3) ratio between administrative and general faculty members. The total number of administrative and general faculty members shall not exceed 52.

3.1 Faculty Members

Faculty members shall consist of members of the general faculty chosen in ratios proportionate to the number of members in each organizational unit as hereinafter provided in the Bylaws. Members shall be elected for three-year terms. No member shall be eligible to serve more than two consecutive terms. The appropriate ratios shall be set yearly by the Committee on Constitutional Review, Apportionment and Organization. Any professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor or instructor specialist of the general faculty may be elected a member of the Faculty Senate.

3.2 Administrative Members

The president, the provost and 11 (eleven) additional administrators of the University shall be administrative members of the Faculty Senate without the right to vote but with the right to discuss, to make motions and to second motions. The 11 administrative members shall be appointed by the president for a term of not less than one academic year. Administrators above the position of department chair shall be eligible for appointment as administrative members of the Senate but shall not be eligible for election as faculty members.

3.3 Student Members

Student members shall consist of four (4) designated students duly appointed by the Executive Cabinet of the Weber State University Student Association. Student members shall have the right to discuss, make motions, second motions and to vote.

3.4 Adjunct Faculty Members

Adjunct faculty members shall consist of two (2) designated adjunct faculty duly elected by the adjunct faculty (as defined in PPM 3-2), as directed by the Executive Committee of Faculty Senate. The adjunct faculty members may not be in the same organizational unit. All adjunct faculty who have taught in the academic year immediately preceding the election.
with the exception of those who concurrently hold administrative appointments, are eligible to be elected to Faculty Senate. The term of an adjunct member is one year, but serving as adjunct senator does not guarantee ongoing University employment. Adjunct faculty member’s eligibility to serve depends on continued employment as adjunct faculty. No adjunct faculty may serve more than six consecutive one-year terms. Adjunct faculty members shall have the right to discuss, make motions, second motions, and to vote.

Section 4. Officers

The chair and vice chair of the Faculty Senate shall be elected by the voting members of the Senate from among the faculty members of the Executive Committee. The term of office shall be for one year. A secretary will be designated by the Senate.

Section 5. Executive Committee

Nine (9) members from among the elected faculty members of the Faculty Senate shall be elected annually by the general faculty to serve as the Executive Committee. The president and the provost shall serve as administrative members without the right to vote. This committee shall meet at the call of the chair or on the request of any two of its members. It shall serve as the steering committee of the Faculty Senate and shall, if requested by the president, represent, or designate persons to represent, the Faculty Senate with other University bodies. The chair and vice chair of the Faculty Senate shall be chair and vice chair of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee shall serve as the agenda committee for the Faculty Senate. It shall provide for the reporting to the Faculty Senate by administrative officers, by chairs of standing and ad hoc committees and by individuals. The Executive Committee shall recommend to the Faculty Senate the membership of committees. Committees may be composed of members of the Faculty Senate, elected or administrative, or of members of the general faculty.

Section 6. Meetings

6.1 Regular Meetings

Regular meetings of the Faculty Senate shall be held at least once a month during the academic school year.

6.2 Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called upon due notice at any time during the academic year

6.2.1 by the chair of the Faculty Senate or the president of the University,
6.2.2 upon request by a majority of the Executive Committee,
6.2.3 by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate at any regular or special meeting,
6.2.4 by petition to the chair of at least 25 percent of the Faculty Senate members, or
6.2.5 by petition to the chair of at least 10 percent of the members of the general faculty.
6.3 Faculty Attendance at Senate Meetings

Faculty Senate meetings shall be open to all members of the general faculty except executive sessions as set forth in the Bylaws. Faculty members who are not members of the Faculty Senate may address the Faculty Senate only upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the Faculty Senate.

6.4 Rules and Procedures

The Faculty Senate shall have power to establish rules of procedure and to determine all matters pertaining to its own meetings. Such general regulations as may be established regarding procedure shall be clearly set forth in its Bylaws.

ARTICLE C-III. AMENDMENTS
Amendments shall be proposed to the general faculty by a majority of the total voting membership of the Faculty Senate. The Senate shall not take its final action on an amendment during the first meeting at which it is introduced. This Constitution of the Weber State University Faculty Senate may be amended only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the general faculty as determined by electronic ballot, overseen by the secretary of the Senate and by three faculty members appointed by the chair of the Senate. A ballot shall be valid only if received by the secretary of the Faculty Senate within 15 (fifteen) days after the date on which ballots were provided to the general faculty. A faculty member who wishes to abstain from voting shall be provided that opportunity on the ballot. At the end of ten (10) days, the secretary shall send a reminder to all members of the faculty who have not yet submitted ballots. At the end of the 15- (fifteen-) day period, the results of the ballots will be announced to all faculty. (For amendments to the Bylaws see Article B-XIII Amendments.)

ARTICLE C-IV. BYLAWS

The Bylaws, where applicable, shall be the basis for all procedures not specifically provided in the Constitution.

This Constitution was adopted by the general faculty on September 29, 1966, and approved by the president of the University on the same date. It was reported to the Board of Trustees on October 18, 1966.