

**Constitution Committee Agenda  
November 21, 2014  
9:30 – 11 a.m.  
Library West Room 429**

1. Minutes approval
2. Update on Faculty Senate approval of Bylaw 20(A)(2)(b)2
3. Review proposed changes to Article VI of the Constitution

Documents from last meeting regarding agenda items #3

[Constitution of the University of Florida](#) (revised Feb 20, 2014)

**University Constitution Committee Minutes (DRAFT)**

**October 10, 2014, 9:30 – 11 a.m.**

**Library West Room 429**

**Attendees:**

David Groisser

Sue Alvers

Hans an Oostrom

Angel Kwolek-Folland

Heather Ray

Meera Sitheram

Christine Fruin

Ralph Rice

Barbara Wingo

Christine Fruin, chair, called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m., the September 2014 minutes were approved with revisions.

**Review Proposed changes to Article VI of the Constitution**

Christine provided background about previous Constitution Committee revisions of Article VI of the Constitution. Inconsistencies were noted at the May Senate meeting and the matter was tabled. She explained that she invited Dr. Hans van Oostrom from Engineering to this meeting to revisit the change regarding colleges, departments, etc. in Article IV. Dr. van Oostrom mentioned that the College of Engineering is trying to update its constitution and even with the May proposed revision, the college's structure is still out of line. After a long discussion the committee made more revisions to the proposed May Article VI document, specifically the "School" and "Department" sections. Before presenting to the senate, the committee will review again at its November meeting. Christine will also ask Dean Frierson to review proposed Section 6 which pertains to the Graduate School.

**Review and Approve Edits to Bylaw 10(a)(2)(b)2**

After making a few more edits, the committee approved the following change in Senate Bylaw 20. Christine will attend the next Steering Committee meeting to ask to put on Faculty Senate agenda.

**CURRENT**

(A)(2)(b)2 Academic Personnel Board.

The President will appoint six members, three of whom will be selected from a slate of nominees elected by the Faculty Senate from the faculty at large. All nominees must hold the rank of professor or above with strong teaching and research records, selected from a variety of disciplines. Three times as many nominees as openings will be provided annually. The Chair is appointed by the President or the President's designee. The Academic Personnel Board advises the President with respect to promotion and tenure nominations, serving in a fact-finding and consultative role.

**PROPOSED (approved by Constitution Committee 10/10/14)**

(A)(2)(b)2 Academic Personnel Board.

The President will appoint ten members, five of whom will be selected from a slate of nominees elected by the Faculty Senate from the faculty at large. All 5 faculty nominees must be senior-ranked faculty members with strong teaching and research records, selected from a variety of disciplines. Eligible faculty members are those who have attained the highest promotional rank in the faculty title series to which they are appointed and who do not also have an academic administrative appointment. Three times as many nominees as openings will be provided annually. The Chair is appointed by the President or the President's designee. The Academic Personnel Board advises the President with respect to promotion and tenure nominations, serving in a fact-finding and consultative role. The President may divide the Academic Personnel Board into more than one working group to expedite the review of nominations.

The November 14<sup>th</sup> meeting was rescheduled to November 21<sup>st</sup> due to conflicts for the majority of the members.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

**Article VI**  
**ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS OF THE UNIVERSITY**

**Section 1.** ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION OF THE UNIVERSITY-

- (A) There shall be established such academic and administrative units as are necessary for administering the academic~~educational~~ programs of the University.
- (B) The basic degree-granting unit of the University shall be the college, ~~in which there may be schools, departments, and such units as are necessary.~~ A college may be a fundamental organizational unit or may consist of schools or departments or both.
- (C) Colleges and schools may be established or abolished by the initiative of the Faculty Senate with the approval of the President of the University and the Board of Trustees. The initiative for establishment or abolition of such units may also be exercised by the Board of Trustees.
- (D) Organizational units may have bylaws (or similar governing documents) that implement the principles of shared governance. Such bylaws (or similar governing documents) shall be governed by and subordinate to the Florida law, the policies and directives of the Florida Board of Governors, and the University of Florida Board of Trustees, University of Florida Regulations, the provisions of this Constitution and the Senate Bylaws, and the Collective Bargaining Agreement for those faculty in the bargaining unit.
- (E) Faculty shall have a shared governance role in determining any changes to the structure and character, including but not limited to forming, consolidating, transferring, closing and renaming, of the colleges, schools and departments in which they are appointed. Such changes shall require the approval of the Faculty Senate. Procedures for this process are set forth in the Bylaws.
- (F) Periodic evaluations of academic units shall be conducted in accordance with procedures adopted by the Senate.

**Section 2.** THE COLLEGES ~~AND SCHOOLS~~

- (A) A college shall be a unit of the University organized to conduct curricula of study, research, and service, and to grant degrees.
- (B) ~~1. Subject to the approval of the Faculty Senate, the President and the Board of Trustees, T~~he faculty of a college, or appropriate committees thereof, shall exercise

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control over the academic affairs of the college subject to the approval of the Faculty Senate, the President and the Board of Trustees. The faculty of the college shall establish requirements of the college for entrance and for graduation, and the form of degrees to be conferred. It shall determine the arrangement and content of the curricula.

~~(C)2~~. The faculty of a college shall consist of (a) all faculty members in the departments, schools and other units that belong to the college; ~~(b) the faculty paid by another college but teaching regularly in the college as part of their duties, when so appointed by specific action of the deans concerned;~~ ~~(be)~~ the deans, associate deans and assistant deans of the college; and ~~(cd)~~ the President of the University as an ex-officio member~~s~~.

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~~(D)3~~. The chief executive and administrative officer of the Graduate School, and of each college shall be a dean, ~~who may at the same time be a professor in one of the departments of the college~~. The dean shall be appointed by the President. In making this appointment, the President shall give consideration to the opinion of the faculty of the college concerned by consultation with a special committee of at least three faculty members elected by the faculty of the college. The dean shall be responsible to the President for the administration of the college and shall be the agent of the faculty for the execution of educational policy.

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### Section 3. THE SCHOOLS

~~(A)B~~ A school, except for the Graduate School, shall be a unit subordinate to a college organized for a special program of studies. A school may consist of two or more departments or may consist of no departments.

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~~(B)~~ ~~The members of a school shall consist of all faculty members who teach or do research in the school and who are members of a department of the school or who are accepted by the vote of the school faculty~~ The members of a department shall consist of all faculty members i) who are appointed to the department or ii) who teach or do research in the department and who are accepted by vote of the faculty.

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~~(C)~~ The program of a school shall be conducted by the school faculty through administrative officer of a school shall be a director, who shall have general responsibility for the activities of the school ~~who may at the same time be a professor in one of the departments of the school.~~

~~(D)~~ The director shall be nominated by the dean of the college and approved by the President. In making this nomination, the dean shall give consideration to the opinion of the faculty of the school concerned by consultation with a special committee of at least three faculty members elected by the faculty of the school. The director shall be subject to the administrative supervision of the dean of the college in which the school is

located. The director may also serve as chair of one or more departments in the school. ~~A school may consist of two or more departments or may consist of no departments.~~

~~(C) Because the college is the unit of the University organized to conduct curricula of study, research, and service, and to grant degrees, periodic evaluations of each college shall be conducted in accordance with procedures adopted by the Senate.~~

**Section 43.** THE DEPARTMENTS-

~~(A) The A department shall be at the fundamental unit of academic and administrative organization ~~within the University.~~ For purposes of organization, a department may be subordinate assigned to one or more colleges and organized for an academic discipline or field of study.~~

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~~(A) The department shall be a unit of the University organized to conduct curricula of study, research and service.~~

~~(B) The members of a department shall consist of all faculty members in the departmental budget, and other persons who teach or do research in the department and are accepted by the vote of the departmental faculty. The members of a department shall consist of all faculty members i) who are appointed to the department or ii) who teach or do research in the department and who are accepted by vote of the faculty.~~

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(C) The program of a department shall be conducted by the departmental faculty through a chair or a school director, who shall have general responsibility for the activities of the department.

(D) The chair shall be nominated by the dean(s) of the college(s) after formal consultation with a committee of the department selected by its tenured members and after consultation with others in related fields outside the department. The nominations shall be forwarded to the President for approval. In those instances where the departmental committee does not concur in the nominee of the dean(s) of the college(s), the committee's report should be forwarded to the President along with the nomination made by the dean(s).

~~(E) Because the department is the fundamental unit of academic and administrative organization within the University, periodic evaluations of each department shall be conducted.~~

~~(F) — A school that has no departments shall be governed as set forth in this Section 3 of Article VI, except that the director will act in the place of the chair.~~

**Section 54.** GENERAL EDUCATION-The University shall require a program of general education for all students receiving bachelor's degrees, which program shall be under the supervision of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The courses that constitute the general education portion of the baccalaureate degree must be approved by a General Education Council, which shall be composed of representatives from the majority of baccalaureate degree-granting colleges within the University.

**Section 65.** THE GRADUATE SCHOOL-[Needs review by the Graduate School.]

- (A) The Graduate School shall exercise general supervision over graduate programs within the University, including the establishment of minimum standards of admission and performance; the recommendation of approval by the Faculty Senate of new degree programs; the recommendation of candidates for graduate degrees to the President; the encouragement, financial and other support of graduate study and research where these functions are not otherwise assigned. Detailed applications of general policies announced in the Graduate Catalog shall have the approval of the Graduate Council. The responsibility for the operation of the graduate program shall be vested in the individual colleges, divisions, departments and institutes.
- (B) General policies and standards of the Graduate School shall be established by the Graduate Faculty.
- (C) The Graduate Council shall assist the dean in being the agent of the Graduate Faculty for execution of policy related to graduate study and associated research.
- (D) Appointment to the Graduate Faculty shall be made by the Dean of the Graduate School upon the approval by a two-thirds vote of all on campus Graduate Faculty in the appointing department and endorsement of the department chair and the dean of the college. Privileges regarding the level of involvement of Graduate Faculty in supervising students are granted by the dean of the college or other designated officials in consultation with the faculty member and in accordance with criteria established by that unit. New faculty may be appointed to the Graduate Faculty as a condition of their appointment to a tenure track position in a graduate degree-granting department upon approval of the appropriate departmental faculty, chair, dean of the college and the Dean of the Graduate School.

**Section 76.** INTER-COLLEGE AND INTER-DEPARTMENTAL INSTITUTES, ~~OR AND~~ CENTERS-For the purpose of research or teaching programs at the graduate or undergraduate level, there may be established under a college dean or other administrative official, an institute or center to administer ~~such~~ inter-disciplinary research or teaching programs. Such units may be established by the Board of Trustees or its designee upon the recommendation of the President or the Senate and the President. They may be abolished by the same procedure or upon the initiative of the Board of Trustees or its designee. Ordinarily, the academic staff of ~~such~~ an institute or center shall be facultyregular members of a college, school or department ~~and also members of an institute for its program. The program of an institute shall be administered as is the program of a department.~~

**Section 87.** SPECIALIZED UNITS-Special units, such as the Experiment Stations, Research and Education Centers and the Cooperative Extension Service of the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, shall be administered as approved by the President.

**Section 98.** ALL-UNIVERSITY UNITS—Academic units serving the entire University, such as the University Libraries, the Florida Museum of Natural History and other all-university agencies, shall be administered directly under the President or through such officers of the University as the President may designate.