

January 28, 2022

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Constitution and Regulations Committee

FROM: Charlene Luke, Chair UCRC

RE: Proposals to Reform UF Constitution to Address Ambiguity
Related to Senate Special Meetings

Below are proposed modifications to our proposals on the special meetings amendments offered in light of the questions and comments I received at the Faculty Senate Meeting on Thursday, January 20, 2022.

(1)

Constitution Article IV Section 4. MEETINGS—The Faculty Senate shall normally meet at least once during each calendar month of the academic year or as specified by the Bylaws of the Senate. Special meetings of the Senate may be called upon due notice at such times as the Chair or President may designate. A special meeting also may be called upon petition of 25 members of the Senate, provided, however, that at least two (2) of the petitioning members are from different Academic Units as defined in Section 2 herein. Any item to be discussed or acted upon at a special meeting must be provided in advance to all Senators, and the support of 25 members shall operate to place that item on the agenda.

(2)

Bylaw 4(I) Procedures for a Special Meeting Upon Petition of Senators.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this bylaw, in the event that a special meeting has been called upon petition of at least 25 of the voting members of the Senate pursuant to Bylaw 4(G)(1)(b), those petitioning senators shall submit in writing any Information Items or Action Items to the Secretary of the Senate, and, those Items must be placed on the Agenda of the Senate, and may only be declined, deferred, or referred to a Senate Council or Committee upon a majority vote of the full Senate. A meeting on those Items shall be called within 10 business days of receipt of the Items by the Secretary of the Senate, and the authority over the Agenda granted the Senate Steering Committee in Bylaw 4(C)(2) shall be in abeyance with respect to such Items. The petitioning senators shall be permitted a reasonable amount of time to present each item placed on the Agenda, and any other interested parties-senators shall be permitted a similar amount of time to respond to the petitioning senators. The Faculty Senate Chair may require the petitioning senators to designate a representative to speak on their behalf at the special meeting, and the Faculty Senate Chair may also require any other group of senators to identify a representative if many members also wish to speak on the same topic. Except to the extent inconsistent with this Bylaw 4(I), discussion of and voting on those Items added by the petitioning senators shall be governed by Bylaw 4.