

3. Election. Elections shall be conducted by electronic secret ballot or paper secret ballot if electronic election is not feasible. Three (3) elected faculty representatives in the University Senate shall be elected annually during the fall semester to serve on the Senate Council. The election shall be conducted under the supervision of the Chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee, who shall remind the voters that election to the Senate Council confers eligibility for election to Senate Council Chair the following year. [US: 1/18/88; US: 10/8/2012]

(a) Nominating Round. On this nominating round, elected Faculty Senators may nominate up to three (3) eligible Faculty Senators from the roster of the eligible persons as certified by the Chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee. The nominating round may be conducted through email. The name of eligible Faculty Senators who have been nominated and have indicated to the election official their willingness to serve will appear on the ballot.

If ten (10) or fewer total nominees are willing to serve, elections shall proceed directly to the Final Voting Round described in subsection (c) below. Otherwise, elections shall include a Preliminary Voting Round described in subsection (b) below.

If three (3) or fewer total nominees are willing to serve, additional solicitations shall be made in an effort to increase the number of nominees.

(b) Preliminary Voting Round. On this first ballot, elected Faculty Senators may rank order up to three (3) candidates from the list of eligible persons as certified by the Chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee. Rank orders will be used to resolve ties. The six (6) candidates with the largest number of total votes, including those ranking the candidate first, second, or third, and shall become candidates in the Final Voting Round. Ties will be resolved as follows:

- i. The higher ranking goes to the candidate with the larger number of first-choice votes;
- ii. If there are still ties, the higher ranking goes to the candidate with the larger number of second-choice votes;
- iii. If there are still ties, the higher ranking goes to the candidate with the larger number of third-choice votes;
- iv. If there are still ties, the ranking will be determined by random draw.

(c) Final Voting Round. On this final ballot, elected Faculty Senators may rank order up to three (3) candidates from the list of the eligible persons as certified by the Chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee. The candidates will then be ranked according to the procedure listed in subsection (b) above.

(d) Election Results. The three highest-ranked candidates under subsection (c) above are elected.

(e) The remaining candidates will be considered in the order so ranked in case of future vacancies on the Senate Council. Ties will be resolved in a fashion similar to the procedure in subsection (b) above.

Rationale:

1. Most people assume if one is nominated in the nomination round, that person *will* appear on the next ballot. Some also think this way: "I am sure Jane Smith will be nominated by others. So there is no need for me to nominate her." Because of this, it is better to refrain from using the term "nomination."
2. If there are three vacancies, it seems logical that each voter gets three meaningful choices. The present system does allow that but only the first choice gets full consideration, while the second and third votes only count in case of ties.
3. Counting only the first choice unless there are ties also result in smaller number of votes for the winners.