Board Meeting

July 11, 2024

# ANNUAL REPORT OF SENATE BYLAWS CHANGES, URBANA

(Report for Information)

During the 2023-2024 academic year, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate approved the attached changes to their bylaws and reported such changes to the University Senates Conference for record.

In accordance with the University of Illinois *Statutes* Article II, Section 1.g (“The bylaws and any changes thereto shall be reported to the Board of Trustees through the chancellor/vice president and the president.”), the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends receipt of the attached changes to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate bylaws.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

**SP.23.08**

September 18, 2023

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.23.08 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.2 – Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

**Background**

The proposed revision would designate the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (AF) as the committee specified by the Senate to consult with the Chancellor on procedures for cases involving severe sanctions other than dismissal for cause for members of the faculty under Article IX, Section 6 of the *Statutes*. These changes would also better delineate the elements of part 2.a and separate hearing committee categories into a new section, part 2.c.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS,* PART D.2 – Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

**2. Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure**

a. Duties

The Committee ~~shall~~:

1. Shall ~~S~~serve as an authorized group to ~~safeguard~~ ensure

a. the academic freedom of the tenure system and non-tenure system faculty, as well as other members of the academic staff, ~~and~~

b. the tenure status of the tenure system faculty, and

c. ~~to assure~~ that unit governance is in accordance with the *Statutes* and unit bylaws~~.~~;

2. ~~The Committee s~~Shall conduct hearings in cases involving dismissal of faculty, as provided in the *Statutes*, Article X;

3. Shall serve, as provided in Article IX, Section 6 of the *Statutes*, as the committee specified by the Senate to consult with the Chancellor on procedures for cases involving severe sanctions other than dismissal for cause for members of the faculty;

a. Procedures shall include, at a minimum, consultation with the Committee on the determination that cause exists to initiate proceedings that might result in the imposition of serious sanctions, and

b. Conduct hearings in such cases;

4. ~~m~~May investigate instances of possible infringement of academic freedom, ~~and~~ hear cases involving allegations of such infringement, and ~~may~~ make such recommendations to the Chancellor and reports to the Senate as are appropriate~~.~~; and

5. ~~The Committee m~~May investigate and make recommendations regarding allegations of violations of the role of tenure and non-tenure system faculty in governance as specified in the *Statutes* and unit bylaws, while respecting the autonomy of the individual units, and report to the Chancellor and the Senate if appropriate changes are not made. ~~The Committee will respect the autonomy of individual units when making any recommendations regarding governance.~~

b. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

1. Seven tenure system faculty members whose administrative duties are below the

level of deans and directors, with no two members from any one college, school,

institute, or similar unit~~, and~~;

2. ~~o~~One non-tenure system faculty member;

3. One academic professional member; and

~~2~~4. Three students, of whom at least one shall be an undergraduate and at least one

shall be a graduate or professional student.

c. Acting as a hearing committee on a case for:

1. Tenure system faculty member

When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article X,

Section 1(e) or Section 2 of the *Statutes* on a case involving a tenure system faculty member, the non-tenure system faculty member, the academic professional member, and student members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations and shall not be counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

2. Non-tenure system faculty member

When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article IX, Section 12 or Article X, Section 2(d) of the *Statutes* on a case involving a non-tenure system faculty member, the academic professional member and the student members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations and shall not be counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

3. Other academic staff member

When the Committee is called to serve as a hearing committee under Article IX, Section 12 or Article X, Section 2(d) of the *Statutes* on a case involving another member of the academic staff, as described in the *Statutes* under Article IX, Section 4, the student members shall not participate in its activities or deliberations and shall not be counted as Committee members for determining the quorum.

**SP.24.03**

October 16, 2023

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.03 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part F – General Provisions (OMA designee)

**Background**

The Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA) requires that all public bodies designate employees, officers, or members to receive training on compliance with OMA. OMA Designees must successfully complete the electronic training on an annual basis. When a public body designates an additional employee, officer, or member to receive this training, that individual must successfully complete the electronic training within 30 days after that designation.

This proposal specifies the OMA designees who must complete the annual OMA training.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends that the Senate approve the following revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part F. Text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS*, PART F – General Provisions**

New Section

1. **Open Meetings Act Designees**

The Illinois Open Meetings Act requires that all public bodies designate employees, officers, or members to receive training on compliance with this law. Open Meetings Act Designees must successfully complete the electronic training on an annual basis. The Open Meetings Act Designees shall be the full-time employees who support the Senate and its standing and *ad hoc* committees.

**SP.24.04**

December 4, 2023

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.04 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part F.7 – Electronic Participation in Meetings of the Senate and its Committees

**Background**

At its February 6, 2023 meeting, the Senate approved SP.20.25, which, for the first time, added provisions to the *Constitution* and *Bylaws* to specify certain forms of electronic participation, consistent with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA). Subsequently, the Board of Trustees approved the amendment of the Senate’s *Constitution*, at which point the changes to the *Bylaws* part F.6-7 went into effect, specifying the Senate’s current practice: Senate meetings are conducted in person whereas Senate committees might allow electronic participation under the restrictions of the OMA.

These proposed revisions to the *Bylaws,* Part F.7 would allow remote participation in both the Senate and its committees. The OMA requires that a quorum be physically present at each meeting. This physically present quorum can then allow additional members of each body to attend virtually provided they are prevented from attending (in the current language of the OMA) “because of: (i) personal illness or disability; (ii) employment purposes or the business of the public body; (iii) a family or other emergency; or (iv) unexpected childcare obligations.” Item (iv) in the list of exemptions was added by the Illinois legislature this summer and is included in this proposal as well.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the Senate approve the following revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part F.7. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate. The approved amendments shall be effective at the close of this meeting.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS*, PART F.7 – ~~Electronic~~ Remote Participation in ~~Meetings of the~~ Senate and ~~its~~ Senate Committee Meetings**

~~a. Except as provided in Section 8 below, meetings of the Senate shall be conducted in person.~~ The Senate has developed procedures in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/7) by which members of the Senate or a Senate committee may request to participate remotely in a Senate or Senate committee meeting by audio and video conference.

~~b.~~a. ~~As provided in the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/7),~~ ~~i~~ If a quorum of ~~the~~ members ~~of a Senate committee~~ is physically present at the location ~~for~~ of a Senate or Senate committee meeting, then a majority of ~~the committee~~ those members present may at their discretion allow a member to ~~attend~~ participate in ~~the~~ that Senate or Senate committee meeting by ~~a means other than a by physical presence~~ audio and video conference.

b. ~~i~~If the member is prevented from physically ~~attending~~ participating, ~~because of~~ criteria for allowing remote participation are: (i) personal illness or disability~~;~~, (ii) employment purposes or the business of the University~~;~~, (iii) a family or other emergency~~;~~, ~~or~~ (iv) unexpected childcare obligations, or (v) another provision authorized ~~in~~ via amendment to the Open Meetings Act. ~~“Other means” is by video or audio conference.~~

1. ~~If a member needs to attend a meeting of a Senate committee by a means other than a physical presence, the member must notify the chair of the committee at least 24 hours before the meeting, unless advance notice is impractical.~~

The request by a member to participate in a Senate meeting by audio and video conference must be submitted to the Clerk of the Senate in writing at least 24 hours before the scheduled start of that meeting. The request by a member to participate in a Senate committee meeting by audio and video conference must be submitted to the chair of that Senate committee in writing at least 24 hours before the scheduled start of that meeting.

1. The ~~V~~vote~~s~~ of a member~~s~~ participating in a meeting by ~~other means~~ audio and video conference shall be accepted and counted, but must be cast by the member, not by a proxy.
2. Notices of Senate and Senate committee meetings shall include ~~an adequate~~ a description of how and under what circumstances a member~~s can join~~ may participate in ~~the~~ a meeting by ~~other means than physical~~ ~~attendance~~ audio and video conference. Further details, such as how to be recognized to speak and how to vote, shall be ~~made available, at a minimum, on the Senate website~~ provided to the member. Provisions must be made for secure participation and secure voting for a member~~s attending by other means~~ participating by audio and video conference.

**SP.24.05**

December 4, 2023

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.05 Proposed Revision to the *Constitution*, Article I, Section 5 and the *Bylaws*, Part A (quorum)

**Background**

The twelfth edition of Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) states that “…a provision of the bylaws should specify the number of members that shall constitute a quorum, which should approximate the largest number that can be depended on to attend any meeting except in very bad weather or other extremely unfavorable conditions.” [RONR (12th ed.) 3:3] The University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) and the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) Senates both specify their respective quorums in their *Bylaws*.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate quorum provision is stated in the *Constitution*. The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (SP) recommends relocating the quorum provision from the *Constitution* to the *Bylaws* to be in line with RONR (12th ed.), and with the UIC and UIS Senates.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the Senate approve the following proposed revision to the *Bylaws*. ~~Struck-through~~ text indicates deletions, and underlined text indicates additions. *Bylaws* amendments require two-thirds approval by the Senate.

**Proposed Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part A**

3. A quorum of the Senate shall consist of 100 elected senators.

The remainder of Part A shall be renumbered.

**SP.24.06**

February 5, 2024

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.06 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.9 – Committee on Elections and Credentials (membership)

**Background**

The Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials (EC) proposes adding the Advisor to the Campus Student Elections Commission (CSEC) as an *ex officio* member of EC. Adding the CSEC Advisor as an *ex officio* member would provide stable continuity between EC and the CSEC. Although the Chair of the CSEC is currently an *ex officio* member, this position is an elected student who may change often, whereas the Advisor is a permanent University employee.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS,* PART D.9 – Committee on Elections and Credentials**

**9. Committee on Elections and Credentials**

b. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

1. Five faculty members;
2. One academic professional member;
3. Two student members;
4. The Clerk of the Senate or the Clerk's designee (*ex officio*);
5. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs or the Vice Chancellor's designee (*ex officio*);
6. The Provost or the Provost's designee (*ex officio*);
7. The Chair of the Council of Academic Professionals or the Chair’s designee (*ex officio*);
8. The Chair of the Campus Student Election Commission~~,~~ or the Chair's designee (*ex officio*), ~~should~~ if the Senate exercises ~~the~~ its option of delegating the student Senate election process; and
9. The Advisor to the Campus Student Elections Commission, assigned by the Office of Student Affairs, or the Advisor’s designee (*ex officio*), if the Senate exercises its option of delegating the student Senate election process.

**SP.24.02**

March 4, 2024

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.02 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part E.4 – Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights

**Background**

From 2018 to 2020, the Senate considered potential revisions to the *University Statutes* (SP.18.14 and SP.19.12) that would draw a distinction between renaming of units due to changes in academic organization and renaming that would only add an eponym to the name of the unit. The background of SP.18.14 noted that:

This set of proposed changes has been developed concurrently with discussions between representatives from the Senate Committees on University Statutes and Senate Procedures, General University Policy, and the Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights, meeting over the last year with the Office of the Provost, University Counsel, the University Foundation, and others. The administration has developed interim procedures, set out in the Campus Administrative Manual, to attempt to honor the logic presented here. Should this set of revisions ultimately be approved by the Board of Trustees, other modifications will be necessary to other policy documents to ensure that this process is consistently expressed across our governing documents.

As of July 2023, the changes proposed in SP.18.14 and SP.19.12 have been approved by the three Senates, with reconciled language incorporated into the *University* *Statutes* as Article VIII, Section 4.b (emphasis added):

*Eponymic Renaming.* If the renaming involves only the addition of an eponym (e.g., the name of an alumnus, donor, person, or entity), the proposal may originate in the unit or at any higher administrative level. The advice of the unit to be renamed shall be taken and recorded by vote of the faculty by secret written ballot in accordance with the bylaws of that unit, and the advice of the appropriate senate shall be taken and recorded by vote. **The senate may specify a committee to provide advice on its behalf under conditions established by the senate. In this case, the committee’s advice, taken and recorded by vote, will be reported to the senate.**

It has been the practice of the Senate during this process to delegate eponymic renaming to the Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights, a body designated to coordinate with the administration on these matters, maintaining confidentiality as necessary. The proposed revisions would specify the Senate’s delegation and require the Joint Advisory Committee to report to the Senate as appropriate.

Committee duties have been reformatted into a list. *Ex officio* members have been updated for language consistency. Appointment and terms of office have been separated under the subcategories of each type of member.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends that the Senate approve the following revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part E. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS*, PART E.4 – Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights**

1. Joint Advisory Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights
   1. Duties

The Committee shall­:

* + 1. ~~p~~Provide advice, consistent with the values of the University, to the Office of the Chancellor~~’s Office~~ on issues of social responsibility related to campus investment, licensing, and naming rights. ~~consistent with the values of the University. Issues within its responsibility include, but are not limited to,~~ Such issues may include licensing ~~of~~ the ~~campus’s~~ University’s names, symbols, and insignia; supporting workers’ rights and fair labor practices; ~~sponsorship~~ sponsoring ~~of~~ products; and advancing corporate social responsibility. ~~more generally. The Committee will also~~
    2. ~~r~~Review proposals to name campus buildings, classrooms, or other physical facilities for donors or other honorees.
    3. Fulfill the Senate’s requirement to provide advice regarding eponymic renaming of academic units (*Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4).
    4. Report promptly to the Senate outcomes of its votes on eponymic renaming of academic units, anonymized as appropriate.
  1. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

* + 1. Five faculty members ~~of the faculty~~;
    2. One academic professional member;
    3. Three student members, including at least one undergraduate student and at least one graduate or professional student;
    4. ~~A representative from the University of Illinois Extension, designated by~~ One designee of the Director of University of Illinois Extension (*ex officio* with vote);
    5. ~~The representative of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics with responsibility for licensing and corporate sponsorships, designated by~~ One designee of the Director of ~~DIA~~ the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics with responsibility for licensing and corporate sponsorships (*ex officio* with vote);
    6. The ~~campus’s~~ University’s representative to the University Caucus of the Worker Rights Consortium (*ex officio* with vote); and
    7. ~~A member of the Office of the Chancellor designated by~~ One designee of the Chancellor (*ex officio*).
  1. Appointment and Terms of Office
     1. Faculty Members

~~Three of the faculty positions and the student positions shall be filled as follows.  The Committee on Committees shall prepare, and the Senate shall approve, a list of candidates, with at least two nominees for each position to be filled.  The Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, shall appoint members from the list.  The Chancellor shall appoint up to two additional faculty members of the Chancellor’s choosing, in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, to bring the total to five.~~

Three faculty members shall be appointed by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, from nominations of at least two individuals for each vacancy made by the Committee on Committees and approved by the Senate. Two additional faculty members shall be selected and appointed by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee. The five faculty members shall serve staggered, renewable terms of three years.

* + 1. ­Academic Professional Member

~~The academic professional position shall be filled as follows: The Council of Academic Professionals shall prepare a list of at least two nominees. The Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Council of Academic Professionals, shall appoint the member from the list.~~

One academic professional member shall be appointed by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Council of Academic Professionals, from nominations of at least two individuals made by the Council of Academic Professionals. The academic professional member shall serve a renewable term of three years.

* + 1. ­Student Members

~~The five faculty members shall serve staggered, renewable terms of three years.  The one academic professional member shall serve renewable terms of three years.~~  Three student members shall be appointed by the Chancellor, in consultation with the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, from nominations of at least two individuals for each vacancy made by the Committee on Committees and approved by the Senate. The three student members shall serve renewable terms of one year.

* 1. Chair

The Chair of the Committee shall be elected annually by the Committee.

**SP.24.08**

April 1, 2024

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.08 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.8 – Committee on Educational Policy (membership)

**Background**

This item first proposes removing one *ex officio* member, the Assistant Provost for Educational Innovation, from the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EP). This *ex officio* member is proposed for removal because the Office of the Provost notified the Office of the Senate that this position is vacant and will not be filled.

This item also proposes adding two new *ex officio* members to EP: Director for General Education and Chair of the General Education Board.

The Office of the Provost notified the Office of the Senate that a new position, Director for General Education, was created within their office with responsibilities for oversight of the University’s general education program. This Director is proposed as an *ex officio* member of EP because this responsibility directly relates to the duties of EP. This addition is also intended to strengthen the relationship between EP and the Office of the Provost by providing an opportunity to share information more readily between the two bodies.

The Chair of the General Education Board (GEB) is responsible for the Board's charge that includes overseeing the campus general education program in accordance with requirements adopted by the Senate. Additional information about GEB can be found in Part E.3 of the *Bylaws*. This Chair is proposed as an *ex officio* member of EP because this responsibility directly relates to the duties of EP. This addition is also intended to reestablish a closer relationship between EP and GEB by providing an opportunity to share information more readily between the two bodies.

This item proposes revising the language describing the composition of the student members for consistency with language used elsewhere in the *Bylaws*.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS,* PART D.8 – Committee on Educational Policy**

**8. Committee on Educational Policy**

d. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

1. Thirteen faculty members;
2. One academic professional member;
3. Five student members, ~~of whom~~ including at least one ~~shall be a~~ graduate student, at least two ~~shall be~~ undergraduate students, and ~~at most~~ no more than one ~~shall be a~~ professional student;
4. The Provost or the Provost’s designee (*ex officio*);
5. The Associate Provost for Enrollment Management or the Associate Provost’s designee (*ex officio*);
6. The Executive Director of the Council on Teacher Education or the Executive Director’s designee (*ex officio*);
7. A member of the Council of Undergraduate Deans (*ex officio*), selected by that Council;
8. The Dean of the Graduate College or the Dean’s designee (*ex officio*);
9. The Director of the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning or the Director’s designee (*ex officio*); ~~and~~

~~10. The Assistant Provost for Educational Innovation or the Assistant Provost’s designee (~~*~~ex officio~~*~~).~~

10. The Director for General Education or the Director’s designee (*ex officio*); and

11. The Chair of the General Education Board or the Chair’s designee (*ex officio*).

**SP.24.07**

April 22, 2024

**University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate**

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

(Final; Action)

SP.24.07 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.17 and Part E.8 – Committee on Research Policy

**Background**

The Report of the Eighth Senate Review Commission ([XSR.19.01](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/20190916senate/xsr1901_FINAL_20190514.pdf)) recommended that the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) examine the work of the committees of the Senate, including areas of the Senate’s work that might not be covered by a committee as currently charged. At its November 29, 2021 meeting, the SEC formed an *ad hoc* working group to examine the possible addition of a Committee on Research Policy to the Senate’s roster of standing committees. The working group considered the matter, looking into a prior attempt by the Senate to form such a committee during the 1990s-2000s, consulting with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (OVCRI), and offering initial language that might establish such a committee.

Previously, the [Fourth Senate Review Commission’s report from 1992](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/src_4.pdf) recommended:

Committee on Research Policy. The Commission recommends the establishment of a new committee that shall be responsible for examination and review of all matters of research policy, including ethical issues related to the conduct and administration of research and the establishment or discontinuance of research units. Heretofore, the Senate has not had a committee directly concerned with research policy. Federal regulations continue to affect the conduct of research; there is a continuing need to develop policies relating to relationships with industry, the ethical practices of research, and interrelationships between faculty investigators on joint projects. A number of policy issues need to be debated and discussed and reported to the Senate for action, if appropriate. This committee would be broadly advisory to the Vice-Chancellor for Research.

This recommendation led to [SP.96.03](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/sp9603_1.asp), a proposal by the Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (SP), which would have created a standing senate Committee on Research Policy. At the [March 19, 2001 Senate meeting](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/010319_m.asp), substitute language was approved after much debate: see [SP.96.03, page 3](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/sp9603.pdf). That amended language shifted the idea to a Research Policy Committee appointed by the Vice-Chancellor for Research (VCR), with nominations from the Senate, which would “advise the Chancellor, the VCR, and the Senate on matters of research policy.” The amended language was referred back to SP because the substitute proposal structured a joint committee, but was not presented as a *Bylaws* amendment.

This item returned to the Senate as [SP.02.03](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/sp0203.asp), approved by the Senate at its November 3, 2003 meeting, creating a Research Policy Committee under the Senates *Bylaws*, Part F, “Senate Representatives to Other Bodies.” In 2017, the Senate streamlined how the Senate’s slate of nominees is created via [SP.17.05](https://www.senate.illinois.edu/sp1705.pdf), noting at the time: “Because the existing process for the Committee on Committees and Senate actions on nominations is complex, the Vice-Chancellor for Research and the Research Policy Committee has requested a streamlining of the process used to establish the committee roster.” However, the Senate has not sent a slate of nominations since 2018.

The SEC working group thus began with language originally proposed in SP.96.03, using it as a basis for a number of discussions with the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation and members of the OVCRI. That Office has grown substantially (as has the scope of research on campus) since the 1990s and members of the OVCRI weighed in on new obligations, such as particular federal reporting standards that did not exist during the previous attempt to form such a committee. The SEC working group proposed modifications to the charge of a Committee on Research Policy and transmitted modified proposal language to SP at the end of 2023.

The proposed language would create a new standing committee of the Senate, charged with a series of responsibilities in relation to research policy and which would be broadly representative. The proposal would also remove the currently defined (but defunct) Research Policy Committee from the *Bylaws*, Part E.8.

**Recommendation**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS,* PART D.17 – Standing Committees**

New #17 [renumber current 17-20 to be new 18-21]

**17. Committee on Research Policy**

a. Duties

The Committee shall:

1. Advise the Senate on matters of research policy and represent the research interests of the faculty, students, and staff on matters such as:
2. policies for sponsored research proposals to outside agencies;
3. policies for the distribution of research funds;
4. policies regarding the responsible conduct of research; and
5. other matters related to research policy, including those governed externally.
6. Offer proposals on research policy to the Senate for review; and
7. Consider relevant policies in consultation with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, recognizing that committee recommendations on research policies may be constrained by state and federal mandates.

b. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

1. Six faculty members, with no more than two members from any one college, school, institute, division, or similar unit;
2. One academic professional member;
3. Two student members, including one undergraduate and one graduate or professional student;
4. The Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation or the Vice Chancellor’s designee (*ex officio*);
5. The Dean of the Graduate College or the Dean’s designee (*ex officio*);
6. The Provost or the Provost’s designee (*ex officio*); and
7. One faculty member of the Illinois Campus Research Board, selected by that Board (*ex officio*).

**REVISION TO THE *BYLAWS,* PART E.8 – Committee on Research Policy**

~~8. Research Policy Committee~~

~~This committee advises the Chancellor, the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (VCRI), and the Senate on matters of research policy. The committee should have no fewer than ten members and no more than fifteen members, and the VCRI appoints all members of the committee, typically for two-year terms. The committee has a faculty chair selected in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee. At least eight members of the Committee shall be faculty chosen from nominations provided by the Senate Committee on Committees, submitted to the full Senate for approval and subsequent transmittal of the nominees to the VCRI. The other members shall be appointed by the VCRI and may include students and academic professionals. The Chair of the Research Policy Committee will provide a written report to the Senate on the activities of this committee at least annually and will provide additional reports to the Senate and the Senate Executive Committee as requested.~~