

Proposed Amendments to the Faculty Senate Bylaws

The following are the Faculty Senate Executive Board's proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

1. **Article II: Vacancies in senate membership, (NEW) Sec. 4** – to allow for reasonable accommodations resulting from a valid and evaluated extenuating circumstance.

[NOTE: acceptance of this amendment includes subsequent re-numbering of the sections that follow within Article II.]

Current	Proposed
Article II: Vacancies in senate membership	Article II: Vacancies in senate membership Senate membership participation Sec. 4. An appropriate accommodation will be made for any elected departmental representative who is unable to attend in-person meetings due to a documented need for an accommodation, provided the accommodation is coordinated with and approved by the Office of Institutional Equity.

2. **NEW Article VIII: Removal of council or committee officers** – to allow for reasonable and justified removal of an elected official of a Senate council or committee.

[NOTE: acceptance of this amendment includes subsequent re-numbering of the articles that follow Article VII.]

Current	Proposed
	Article VII: Removal of council or committee officers Sec. 1. Authority to initiate removal Removal of a council or committee officer may be initiated by: • The council or committee to which the officer belongs, by a majority vote of its members. • The Executive Board, acting independently or in response to a recommendation. Sec. 2. Grounds for removal An officer may be considered for removal for reasons including, but not limited to: • Failure to perform assigned duties or responsibilities. • Acting outside the scope of established policies, procedures, or parliamentary standards. • Conduct that undermines the integrity, effectiveness, or reputation of the council, committee, or organization. • Repeated failure to attend meetings without valid excuses. • Breach of confidentiality or ethical standards. Sec. 3. Recommendation process When initiated by a council or committee a formal recommendation for removal shall be



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	submitted in writing to the Executive Board. The recommendation must include justification and documentation supporting the proposed action. Sec. 4. Executive Board action The Executive Board shall serve as the final approving authority for all removals of council and committee officers. Upon receipt of a recommendation, or upon its own initiative, the Executive Board shall: • Review the matter, including any supporting documentation. • Provide the officer in question an opportunity to respond. • Vote on the removal. A majority vote of the Executive Board is required to approve the action. Sec. 5. Notification and effect If the removal is approved, the Executive Board shall notify the affected officer and the originating council or committee. The removal shall take effect immediately upon notification, unless otherwise specified by the Executive Board. Sec.6. Vacancy and replacement Any vacancy resulting from removal of an officer shall be filled in accordance with Article VI, Sec.1> for councils and Article VIII, Sec.2. for committees.
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3. Article XIII: Admission and participation of non-members at Faculty Senate meetings, Sec. 3 – to align consistency with the newly ratified Professional Instructors Organization agreement.

Current	Proposed
Sec. 3. Participation by part-time instructors The faculty of WMU acknowledge the dedication, skills, and essential roles played by part-time instructors in the mission of the University. Part-time instructors are allowed and encouraged to participate in meetings of the Senate, its councils and committees, when recognized by the presiding officer. Participation does not include voting rights or proposing motions.	Sec. 3. Participation by part-time professional instructors The faculty of WMU acknowledge the dedication, skills, and essential roles played by part-time professional instructors in the mission of the University. Part-time Professional instructors are allowed and encouraged to participate in meetings of the Senate, its councils and committees, when recognized by the presiding officer. Participation does not include voting rights or proposing motions.