

1.4.2 Faculty Senate

(Adopted by

ARTICLE II. Purposes and Responsibilities

The purpose of the Faculty Senate is to act as an effective faculty assembly which can, within the laws applicable to Murray State University, enter into a partnership for shared responsibility and cooperative action among the students, faculty, administration, the Board of Regents, and other elements of the university. In accordance with this purpose, the Faculty Senate shall function as an agency:

- A. To promote the growth and general welfare of the university.
- B. ~~to~~ consider and express faculty judgment

(Amended January, 1989)

B.

Executive Committee. The previous year's President of the Senate, if not a member of the Executive Committee in some other capacity, shall be a nonvoting member. The President of the Senate shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee. The Vice President of the Senate shall serve as Vice Chair of the Executive Committee. (*Revised March 8, 1983*)

2. The Executive Committee shall serve as the agenda committee for the Senate, a nominating committee for Senate officers and representatives, and an advisory board to the President of the Senate.

1. The Faculty Senate shall elect three (3) representatives to the University Academic Council, each for a two-year term. Every odd year the Senate shall elect three of these during its regular May meeting. *(As amended by the Board of Regents June 6, 2014)*
2. The Faculty Senate or its President may elect other representatives for stated purposes and terms. If the President of the Faculty Senate appoints a representative of the Senate ad hoc, he/she shall so inform the Senate at its next meeting, and of the terms of the appointment, all of which shall be subject to Senate confirmation.

B. Recall of Representatives of the Senate

1. Representatives of the Faculty Senate may be recalled by a vote of a majority of the whole

ARTICLE VI. Election of At-Large Senators

The election of at-large senators shall be held during the third week of April.

- A. Nominations will be accepted by the Chair of the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee from the first of March until the end of the first Tuesday in April. A candidate may be self-nominated or nominated by a member of the Senate. To be valid, a nomination must be made in writing (email) and include the name of the nominee and the name of the nominator. No nominee will become an official candidate until his/her eligibility for office and willingness to serve has been confirmed by the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee.
- B. Not less than one week prior to the election the Chair of the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee will mail a list of candidates and a notice of the time of the balloting to all faculty members who are eligible to vote in the election. The election shall be by secret ballot.

In elections where the number of candidates nominated equals the number of positions, nominees will be elected by general consensus (acclamation) by the Chair of the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee (*Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, 9th edition, pg. 433*).

This amendment is applicable to the election of at-large senators; however, the committee recommends that this apply to University Governance Committees as well. (*Amended May 20, 2011*)

ARTICLE VII. Election of the Faculty Regent

1. The Faculty Regent is a faculty member who is elected to represent faculty on the Board of Regents.
2. With respect to the Faculty Regent, KRS 164.321 reads:

The faculty member of a comprehensive university shall be a teaching or research member of the faculty of his or her respective university of the rank of assistant professor or above. The faculty member shall be elected by secret ballot by all faculty members of his or her university of the rank of instructor, assistant professor, or above. The faculty member shall serve for a term of three (3) years and until his successor is elected and qualified. The faculty member shall be eligible for reelection, but he or she shall not be

eligible to continue to serve as a member of the board if he or she ceases being a member of the teaching staff of the university. Elections to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term in the same manner as provided for the original election.

This section of the handbook shall be considered amended as KRS 164.321 is amended.

3. The term of office for a Faculty Regent is three years. The Faculty Regent election shall be held in April of the third year or as a special election is needed.
4. The Faculty Senate Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee is the Board of Election for the Faculty Regent election, responsible for determining and announcing the procedures and timeframe for the election process, the eligibility of candidates, the eligibility of voters, and the winner of the election. Potential candidates should seek information regarding the policies and procedures of the election from the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws committee; appropriate Kentucky Revised Statutes; and other relevant University policies set forth by the Board of Regents.
5. Any eligible faculty member may secure candidacy for the election by submitting a candidacy form with fifteen signatures from faculty members who are eligible to vote, along with a candidacy biography, no longer than one page, to the Office of the Faculty Senate by the deadline announced by the Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee.
6. The Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee will verify the eligibility of all candidates and announce the candidates during the first full week of April before a regular election or two weeks prior to a special election, and will organize, as it deems appropriate, for the candidates to present themselves to the faculty of the university.
7. There are to be no absentee ballots, and eligible voters may only cast their votes during the announced dates of the election. The Rules, Elections, and Bylaws Committee will determine the ballot method of the election.
8. The candidate names will appear on the ballot in a random order via drawing.
9. A faculty member may vote in the election if he or she holds the rank of instructor, assistant professor, or above, as specified in KRS 164.321. Administrators who hold such rank as faculty members may vote in the election.
10. Each voter may cast one vote. The successful candidate will be elected by a simple majority of those who vote.
11. If no candidate secures more than half the votes cast, a runoff election shall be held.

ARTICLE VIII. Procedural Rules

The Faculty Senate will use the following three named actions to conduct business: motions, resolutions, and handbook revisions. A Faculty Senate Motion will be considered any action that does not require approval from the administration to act upon. A Faculty Senate Resolution will be considered any action that does require approval from the administration to act upon. A Faculty Senate Handbook Revision will be a proposal that makes changes to the Faculty Handbook.

Faculty Senate Motions can be presen