

Faculty Senate Minutes

Meeting No. 7, Spring Semester 2023

(Plenary Session)

Monday 24th April 2023, 20:00

On Zoom

Call to Order and Roll Call

Due to technical issues, not all senators were able to speak, so they used the chat to voice their concerns. Professor Hsieh, as the vice-chair, stood in for Chair Omondi. Professor Hsieh called the meeting to order at 20:14.

In attendance:

- Professor Houghton
- Professor Pennings
- Professor Han
- Professor Hsieh
- Chair Omondi
- Professor Hong
- Professor Lenz
- Professor Jeong
- Professor Kang
- Professor Ryoo
- Professor O

Acceptance of Agenda

Accepted by all.

Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes

Chair Omondi requested that the distribution of the minutes be held off until Wednesday when he would have time to finish his feedback. Professor Houghton told all senators to let him know of any issues by Wednesday; otherwise, they will be considered approved and distributed to the faculty.

Discussion and Vote on Proposal to Amend the Bylaws

- Professor Hsieh presented the proposed change to Bylaw 2, as highlighted below:
 - The term of office for elected Senate members shall be two years and run from the start of the first academic year to the end of the second academic year. In case a member vacates her or his term and an alternate is unavailable, a special election shall be held to select a member for the unexpired portion. A member cannot serve two consecutive terms. The initial election of half of the senators shall be for one year in order to stagger the election. **The one year shall not be considered a term.**
- Professor Hsieh – the issue is whether the one year is considered a term.

- Professor Houghton – while he proposed the change to the Bylaws, the main issue is any vagueness in the Bylaws, which must be fixed. In this instance, the Senate was able to call on the original drafter to find out the intention. This may not always be the case.
- Professor Hsieh – even if senators are allowed to run again, the elections will remain staggered, as was the intention in the Bylaws. This is a one-off. The senators will still have to win the upcoming election to remain in their position.
- Professor Houghton – those with one year were elected as supposedly the best representative for their department. As a young senate, it is essential to have the best representatives for each department for as long as possible to ensure that the departments grow and benefit during the early stages when the Senate is being shaped.
- Professor Hsieh called for the vote at 20:23. This was seconded by Professor Houghton.
- Professor Houghton reminded the Senate that a 2/3 majority is needed to amend the Bylaws.
- Chair Omondi – Robert's Rules of Order has exceptions for small-body organizations (Section 49, Part 12) which allow the Chair to vote, but in this situation, he stated that he would only do so if it is necessary to break a tie or to reach a 2/3 threshold.
- Due to technical issues, the senators voted via the chat, except for Professor Pennings, who raised his hand as he was sharing a computer with Professor Houghton. Nine senators voted in favour of the change.
- The proposed change will be made to the Bylaws, allowing senators with a one-year term to run again for election.

Any other business

No other business.

Adjournment

Professor Hsieh adjourned the meeting at 20:38.