

The Bylaws of the College of Education Florida State University

Approved April 22, 2014

Vision

Our vision is to be a world leader in the promotion of human and social capacity, development and progress through the conduct of cutting-edge research, excellence in teaching, and meaningful service.

Mission

We extend the frontiers of knowledge relevant to individual learning and social progress in diverse societies by carrying out innovative and rigorous research into areas of educational inquiry. Notably the College applies that knowledge through the study and development of effective policies and the education of future teachers, sport administrators, educational leaders, policy-makers and scholars at the local, state, national and international levels.

Values

To realize our vision and achieve our mission, our world class College of Education...

- Creates and sustains a culture of academic freedom, intellectual curiosity, unfettered communication and academic rigor as well as the institutional support necessary to support cutting-edge research in all areas of education,
- Shares its knowledge and skill with the local, state, national and international communities by supporting research relevant to the application of new knowledge to educational problems,
- Provides for the educational future of the communities it serves through high quality instruction of prospective teachers, educational leaders, sport administrators, policy-makers and scholars,
- Promotes a strong sense of community and collaboration both within the College and between the College and the communities it serves, and
- Educates and trains critical thinkers who will contribute to individual and social development and progress through their teaching, leadership, and research.

Section Titles:

SECTION A: Role of the Faculty in the College of Education

SECTION B: Code of Ethics

SECTION C: General Faculty Meetings in the College of Education

SECTION D: The Dean

SECTION E: The Office of Department Chair/School of Teacher Education Director

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SECTION A: Role of the Faculty in the College of Education

1. The professional authority of the faculty in the College of Education is herewith recognized with reference to the determination of the nature and content of departments and the determination of admission requirements as provided in Article V of the University Constitution. Such authority is subject, however, to the University-wide regulation of the Faculty Senate, the University Constitution, and the authority of the Chair as delegated. Rights and privileges of the faculty in general are located and described in Collective Bargaining Agreement (COB) between the United Faculty of Florida and the Board of Trustees. In any contested issues, the COB is the final arbiter of any rules and regulations concerning the faculty.
2. The role of the faculty in the College of Education at Florida State University shall reflect the AAUP statement that faculty is responsible “for such fundamental areas as curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status, and those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process.”¹ In particular, the faculty shall:
 - a. Preparation of teachers, educational leaders, researchers, administrators and other education and human service personnel;
 - b. Research on issues related to education, in its broadest definitions;
 - c. Service to professions represented by our disciplines and to the College of Education and Florida State University

The College promotes self-direction of the faculty and students, and provides for appropriate faculty and student participation in the decision-making processes of the College.

3. Voting members of the COE shall include: 1) tenured and tenure-earning College faculty who have at least a 25% appointment within a department/school of the College; 2) specialized faculty who are full-time and who have 100% appointment with a department/school of the College.

SECTION B: Code of Ethics

PREAMBLE

The indispensable condition for the successful discharge of our professional functions is an atmosphere of intellectual freedom. Because we are free to pursue the quest for knowledge and understanding wherever it may lead, and to report and discuss our own

¹ See AAUP Statement at <http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/pubsres/policydocs/contents/governancestatement.htm>

findings, whatever they may be, we are able to support the mission of the College while we perform our work. It is imperative, therefore, that we contribute to an atmosphere of intellectual freedom and that we uphold that freedom by our own individual actions as faculty of the College of Education and Florida State University.

Freedom entails responsibilities. We accept the responsibilities which are concomitant with the freedom we need and must have. With this freedom our responsibilities are: (1) to our students, (2) to scholarship, (3) to our colleagues, (4) to the institution, and (5) to the larger community which the institution serves.

1. Canon One: Responsibilities to Students

As teachers we are responsible for creating in our interactions with students a climate that stimulates and encourages each student's endeavors to learn. To the best of our ability we exemplify the highest scholarly standards of our discipline, and we respect and foster the student's freedom to choose and pursue his or her own goals. We demonstrate respect for the student as an individual, and adhere to our proper role as intellectual guide and counselor. We make every reasonable effort to foster honest academic conduct and to assure that our evaluation of each student reflects the merit of his or her work. We respect the confidential nature of the relationship between professor and student. We avoid any exploitation of students for our private advantage and acknowledge significant assistance from them. We protect our students' academic freedom.

- a. We have the obligation to make clear the objectives of the course or program, to establish requirements, to set standards of achievement, and to evaluate the student's performance.
- b. We have the responsibility to meet our classes as scheduled and, when circumstances prevent this, to arrange equivalent alternate instruction.
- c. We have the responsibility to teach our courses in a manner that is consistent with the course description and credit published in the catalog, and with the announced objectives of the course. Our classes are free from the intrusion of material or personal views that have no relation to the subject matter of the course.
- d. On controversial issues within the scope of the course, a reasonable range of opinion should be presented. When we present our own views on such issues, we identify them as such. Wherever values, judgments, or speculative opinions constitute part of the subject matter, we identify them as such, and do not offer them as fact.
- e. We owe to the student and the University a fair and impartial evaluation of the student's work. Evaluation of student performance and products is consistent with the recognized standards of the discipline, and is not influenced by irrelevancies such as religion, race, sex, or political views. Evaluation of students' performance

and products is conducted independent of students' attitudes toward the teacher's opinions pertaining to matters of controversy within the discipline.

- f. Every student is entitled to the same intellectual freedom that faculty members enjoy. We respect and protect that freedom, and do not impose restraints upon the student's search for or consideration of diverse or contrary opinion.
- g. We have obligations as an intellectual guide and counselor to our students. We have a responsibility to be available to students without undue delay. In advising students we should make every reasonable effort to see that information given to them is as accurate as possible. The progress of students in achieving their academic goals should not be thwarted or unduly retarded because we have neglected our obligations as advisor and counselor.
- h. We conduct ourselves at all times in manners that demonstrate respect for the student, including respecting the confidences deriving from the faculty-student relationship, and acknowledgement of their contributions to our work.

2. Canon Two: Responsibilities to Scholarship

Our responsibilities to scholarship derive from the University's commitment to truth and the advancement of knowledge. Furthermore, society has a vital stake in maintaining the University as an institution where knowledge can be sought and communicated regardless of its popularity, its political implications, or its immediate or apparent usefulness. Guided by a deep conviction of the worth and dignity of the advancement of knowledge, we accept our ethical responsibility to make full appropriate use of intellectual freedom in our teaching and research, and to guard that freedom from abuse. Our primary responsibility to our subject is to seek and to state the truth as we see it. To this end, we devote our energies to developing and improving our scholarly competence.

- a. We are committed to a lifetime of study. We constantly strive to keep abreast of progress in our fields, to develop and improve our scholarly and teaching skills, and to devote part of our energies to the extension of knowledge in our area of competence.
- b. We have the responsibility of being unfailingly honest in our research and teaching. We take regular precautions against the common causes of error, misrepresentation, or distortion of information and ideas.
- c. In order to maintain or increase our effectiveness as scholars, we may find it advantageous to assume certain obligations outside the university, such as consulting for government or industry or other educational or human services institutions or systems, or holding office in scholarly or professional societies. Such activities are appropriate in so far as they contribute to our development as scholars in this field. We neither accept such obligations primarily for financial gain,

nor accept any that are incompatible with our primary dedication as scholars.

- d. We, as recipients of grants/contracts, shall expend grants/contracts resources in a manner consistent with the terms, conditions, and commitments made with the granting/contracting agencies.

3. Canon Three: Responsibilities to Colleagues

As colleagues, we have obligations that derive from common membership in the community of scholars. We respect and defend the free inquiry of our associates. In the exchange of criticism and ideas, we show due respect for the rights of others to their opinions. We acknowledge the contributions of others to our work. When asked to evaluate the professional performance of a colleague, we are objective and engage in the evaluation with respect and care.

As colleagues we shall assist new faculty members in professional and personal betterment. Insofar as feasible and/or possible, we shall assist all of our colleagues in professional matters, for we know that our own professional work prospers when our colleagues' work prospers.

4. Canon Four: Responsibilities to the Institution

As a member of our institution each of us seeks above all to be an effective scholar and teacher. In addition, we have a responsibility to participate in the day-to-day operation of the Florida State University. We observe the stated regulations of the University, while we maintain our right to criticize and seek revision in the regulations of the University and in the institutions of our disciplines. We determine the amount and character of the work we do outside our institution with due regard to our paramount responsibilities within it. When considering the interruption or termination of our service, we recognize the effect of such a decision upon the program of the institution and give due notice of our intentions.

Among our general responsibilities to the Florida State University the following may be particularly noted:

- a. When we act or speak as private persons, we make clear that our actions and utterances are entirely our own and not those of the University.
- b. We do not exploit our standing within the University for private or personal gain. We may, on appropriate occasions, cite our connection with the University, but only for purpose of identification. We do not suggest that the University in any way sponsors any of our private activities.
- c. We use University facilities, equipment, supplies, and the like only for our professional obligations and responsibilities, never for personal or private business.

- d. We accept the duty to ensure that the regulations of the Florida State University are designed to achieve the University's goals as well as being in accord with the principles of academic freedom. Recognizing the importance of order within the institution, we observe the regulations of the University, but in no way abdicate our right to attempt to reform those regulations by any appropriate orderly means.
- e. Effective faculty participation in the governance of the University promotes academic freedom and the goals of the Institution. We take part in the Institution's decision-making processes to the best of our abilities and accept a fair share of the faculty's responsibility for its day-to-day operation.

5. Canon Five: Responsibility to the Community

As a member of this community, each of us has the rights and obligations of any citizen. We measure the urgency of these obligations in the light of our responsibilities to our subject, to our students, to our profession, and to our institution. The rights and obligations include the right to organize and join political or other associations, convene and conduct public meetings, to publicize our opinions on political and social issues, and to critically assess the “means and ends” of society in the context of our scholarship and teaching. However, in exercising these rights we make it abundantly clear that we do not speak for the University but as individuals. We do not use the classroom to solicit support for our personal views and opinions. Academic freedom has traditionally included the faculty member's full freedom as citizens. If the exercise of our freedom as citizens interferes with obligations to our students, colleagues, discipline, or the University, we shall either request a leave of absence or resign our academic position.

SECTION C: General Faculty Meetings in the College of Education

1. The College of Education faculty shall meet at least once annually in regular session.
2. The Chair of the Faculty Advisory Board or his/her designee and the Dean of the College of Education shall co-preside at the annual meeting.
3. The agenda of each College of Education faculty meeting, as established by the person or persons calling the meeting, shall be proposed and distributed to all faculty at least two days prior to the meeting.
4. The primary purpose of the faculty meeting shall be for the Dean to offer a State of the College address.
5. Any member of the general faculty holding a one-quarter time appointment or greater in the College of Education may move to incorporate an item relating to the general welfare of the College in the agenda of the General Faculty Meeting at the time of the meeting, and the agenda item will become part of the agenda for discussion and action upon a majority vote of the faculty in attendance at the meeting.

SECTION D: The Dean

1. The Faculty Advisory Board will submit to the President of the University, or his or her designee, a set of faculty-created criteria for the selection of the Dean, and will also suggest names of members of the Faculty Advisory Board to serve on the search committee that advises the President or designee on the selection of a Dean.
2. The Dean shall be responsible for administration and shall also be held responsible for providing leadership and executive initiative in the planning, decision-making, and organizational activities essential to the accomplishments of the objectives set by the college, and the evaluation of efforts to attain those objectives.
3. The Dean is responsible for the selection, appointment, and assignment of duties to members of her/his professional staff.
4. The Dean is responsible for the oversight of college policies including the development of policies that further the college mission and goals. Furthermore, the Dean may propose changes in college policies or modifications in the organizational structure of the college and shall work with the Faculty Advisory Board to make changes, with both the Dean and the Board assuring that broad faculty input is solicited.

SECTION E: The Office of Department Chair/School of Teacher Education Director

1. Duties: The department Chair and School of Teacher Education Director shall be the executive officer of the department/school while providing the academic leadership necessary to meet the department/school's mission and goals. Duties of this office may include calling meetings, presiding at same, acting as liaison between the department and the administrators of the college and university, administering budgets developed by the faculty, and in general, coordinating the activities of the department. It shall likewise be the duty of the chair to make recommendations for the growth and advancement of the department. Discretionary within each department shall be the establishment of a Vice Chair whose responsibilities are to be defined and elaborated upon by the department. The Vice Chair shall serve in the absence of the Chair and shall have additional duties as established by the department. The Vice Chair may be appointed by the Chair or elected by the departmental faculty.
2. Selection. When a vacancy occurs at the Chair/Director level, the Dean will meet with the department/school to establish the parameters for selection of a chair/director either from within the department or through an external search. A search committee based on the procedures established in their respective bylaws will be identified. In the absence of defined department/school procedures the College procedures will be utilized. The Dean will convene the initial meeting of the search committee to review mutual expectations. Prior to any committee recommendation being forwarded to the Dean, all members of the department/school (including faculty, staff, and students)

will be afforded an opportunity to provide feedback on any candidate to be considered for the office. Departments will recommend their preference to the dean who holds the final selection authority.

3. Reappointment. While the designated term of office is three years, the term of Chair/Director is renewable indefinitely by a two-thirds vote of departmental faculty. Early in the third year of each term, the Chair/Director shall be reviewed by the faculty. The faculty shall meet with the Dean to report its findings. If a two-thirds vote for renewal is not obtained, the department will conduct a search as outlined in Section 2 above. Whenever the office of Chair/Director becomes vacant, the department shall conduct a search. While the selection process is occurring, the elected Vice-Chair (or, in the absence of an elected Vice-Chair, an appointee of the Dean) will serve as interim chair.
4. Recall. Upon a two-thirds vote of no confidence in the chair's/director's administrative performance, produced by tenured and tenure-earning faculty members in the Chair's/Director's department/school, a search shall be initiated under the provisions of Section 2 above.

SECTION F: Faculty Governance

1. Jurisdiction

- a. Faculty governance within the College of Education will include the following Faculty committees: the Faculty Advisory Board (FAB), the Curriculum Committee, the Technology Committee, the Committee on Research in Education (CORE), the Florida State University School Committee, the Student Life Committee, the Faculty Development Committee, and the University Faculty Senate Representatives.
- b. As the elected bodies of the College of Education faculty, the faculty committees may formulate an opinion on any subject of interest to the College faculty and may formally adopt resolutions for consideration and timely response by the Dean and the Associate and/or Assistant Deans.
- c. The Dean of the College retains the right to veto any action taken by Faculty Committees. Reasons for any veto shall be delivered in writing to the Faculty Advisory Board Chair and relevant Committee chair prior to the next meeting of Faculty Committees. The Dean may follow the written reasons by a verbal presentation of his/her reasons for a veto during a meeting of the Faculty Advisory Board. The Faculty Advisory Board may appeal any veto to the appropriate university administrator with a vote of two-thirds or more of the membership in support of the appeal.
- d. Once established, no Faculty Committee may be dissolved or changed except by following procedures specified in the Bylaws of the College, or by a two-thirds vote

of voting faculty.

- e. Members of the COE committees will communicate by e-mail and other appropriate methods in lieu of meetings to the greatest extent possible.
 - f. When COE-wide meetings are necessary, the FAB chair will schedule a meeting at a convenient time and place, and all members of currently operating committees, and all interested College of Education faculty will be notified of and invited to the meeting.
 - g. Minutes will be taken at all COE meetings and made available to all of COE faculty.
2. The Faculty Advisory Board consists of elected faculty representatives who promulgate and advise the Dean and Dean's staff on policies, procedures and issues affecting the College of Education. The FAB will advance policies relevant to academic life, broadly conceived, and faculty and student issues and concerns in particular. This group will represent faculty to the Dean's Office through a different channel from department chairs.

The Faculty Advisory Board shall undertake each year a number of projects related to its mission. The FAB shall solicit ideas for such projects from faculty, administration, the UFF, and the FAB itself. The outcome of these projects will generally be recommendations made to the Office of the Dean.

- a. The Faculty Advisory Board will consist of one elected representative from each department and four at-large representatives elected by all eligible faculty members.² No unit shall have more than three representatives. Members will be elected to two-year terms. With the exception noted in item (b), departmental representatives will be elected during the spring semester in odd years and at-large representatives in during the spring semester in even years. Ballots of eligible at-large representatives will be developed by the FAB Executive Board and reviewed by the FAB after election of departmental representatives. With the exception noted in item (b), elections for members will occur no later than the end of spring semester.
- b. Members of the COE administrative team are not eligible to serve.
- c. The Vice-Chair will become the Chair, and elections for Vice-Chair and Recording Secretary will take place on an annual basis.
- d. The Chair, Vice-Chair, and Recording Secretary will be known as the Executive Board.

² This shall include the School of Teacher Education.

- e. The Chair and Vice-Chair will also serve as members on the COE council of deans and department chairs.
- f. The Faculty Advisory Board will hold meetings every month during the fall and spring semesters.
- g. The Dean may request or be invited to attend meetings as necessary.
- h. Once each semester (fall and spring), the FAB will hold COE-wide faculty meetings to report on its activities and to seek input from faculty. In addition to these meetings, at the request by petition of at least 50% of the COE voting faculty (Section A, article 3), the Faculty Advisory Board will schedule a special COE-wide faculty meeting.
- i. A member of the Faculty Advisory Board shall be included on committees related to faculty representation established by the Dean.
- j. A member of the Faculty Advisory Board shall be included on committees related to departmental reorganizations.
- k. A member of the Faculty Advisory Board shall be included on committees regarding the development of long-range plans for the College of Education.
- l. A member of the Faculty Advisory Board shall be included on committees regarding mission, vision and priorities for the College of Education.
- m. The Faculty Advisory Board will issue an annual report to the COE faculty that will include, at a minimum:
 1. Projects undertaken during the year
 2. Project outcomes or progress report
 3. Committee membership activities

3. Committees

Unless mandated by university policy, each committee listed below will have one departmental representative elected for a two-year term. Terms will be staggered with half of the members (those from STE and SM) elected in even years and half of the members (those from EPLS and ELPS) elected in odd years. Each department should have a designated alternate who will act as a substitute should the duly elected representative be unable to attend meetings or not fulfill their term.

- a. The **Curriculum Committee** is responsible for all matters that relate to curriculum and curricular issues as mandated by university committees (e.g. Course Approval, Common Course Numbering, University Curriculum Issues, Distance Learning, CIRC, Library, Honors Programs.)
 - 1) The committee will report directly to the Dean's Office working closely with the

- appropriate staff members with assigned duties aligned with the intent of the Curriculum Committee.
- 2) The Committee will post their minutes to the COE Faculty Committee Blackboard site at least twice an academic year.
- b. The **COE Faculty Development Committee** will serve as the COE Promotion and Tenure Committee and as an advisory board for the Associate Dean for Faculty Development in matters related to faculty life, including but not limited to, Graduate Directive Status, promotion and tenure.
- 1) The College of Education will follow the rules and procedures established by the University for Promotion and Tenure Committee in all matters related to Promotion and Tenure..
 - 2) Each unit shall be entitled to representation on the COE Faculty Development Committee according to the following:
 1. The chair of the promotion and tenure committee from each unit (to be elected by April 1st of each year) will automatically become a member of the College Faculty Development Committee. The co-chair from the School of Teacher Education's committee will also be a member of the committee.
 2. The remaining four members of the committee will be elected following the April 1st departmental elections and elections will be conducted under the direction of the Associate Dean for Faculty Development.
- c. The **Committee on Research in Education (CORE)**. The purpose of CORE is to raise and address issues related to research and grant possibilities within the College, and to facilitate the collaboration within and across departments, colleges and schools in order to promote research initiatives.
- 1) The committee will report directly to the Dean's Office and will work with the Associate Dean of Research to make known to faculty the research initiatives and grant opportunities within the college that may be of interest to faculty in the college. It will arrange for and facilitate the meetings of interdisciplinary groups of faculty members to pursue such research and grant opportunities.
 - 2) All units within the College of Education will be equitably represented on CORE. The committee will post their minutes to the COE Faculty Committee Blackboard site at least twice each academic year.
- d. The **Technology Committee** will be responsive to the technology needs of the College and advise the Dean on a technology plan and purchases as related to the faculty welfare.
- 1) The committee will report directly to the Dean's Office.
 - 2) The committee will post their minutes to the COE Faculty Committee Blackboard site at least twice each academic year.
- e. The **Student Life Committee** will be responsible for promoting a culture of high standards for students in all programs within the College of Education.
- 1) The committee will report directly to the Dean's Office.
 - 2) The committee will post their minutes to the COE Faculty Committee Blackboard

- site at least twice each academic year.
- 3) The Student Life Committee will participate in the selection of students for College and University wide scholarships, fellowships and awards.
 - 4) Scholarships that are to be awarded within Departments, Schools, or other units will be awarded by procedures determined by that particular unit and will not be subject to oversight or review by the College Level Student Life Committee. The committee will participate in the decision process for college-wide scholarships.
 - 5) The Student Life Committee may actively participate in the identification of students for both internal and external awards and recognitions.
 - 6) The Student Life Committee may receive, consider, and refer student grievances and appeals.
 - 7) The Student Life Committee shall, when needed, clarify standards and procedures concerning student academic achievement and professional conduct.
 - 8) The Student Life Committee shall, when needed, consider and advise the Dean regarding policies and matters regarding student recruitment, admission, re-admission, and retention.
- f. The **Florida State University School (FSUS)/FSU Committee** will help design and uphold the Framework for Collaboration established between FSU and FSUS. FSUS will serve as a research site, a pre-service teacher training site, and a site for innovative curriculum development and evaluation for FSU faculty and students.
- 1) Each unit having a mission that is supportive of the FSUS mission will have a representative on the committee to serve for two-year terms. The School of Teacher Education may have more members on the committee but not to exceed 75% of the committee membership.
 - 2) The committee will report directly to the Dean's Office.
 - 3) The committee will post their minutes to the COE Faculty Committee Blackboard site at least twice an academic year.
- g. **Faculty Senate Membership**
- 1) Each unit will have at least one elected representative to the University Faculty Senate to serve for two-year terms. Units may also select an alternative to serve in the event that the elected senator is unable to attend a meeting.
 - 2) Additional at-large members will be elected to serve a two-year term by the entire COE faculty by March 30th of the preceding academic year in which they will serve. The ballot of eligible faculty will be developed by the FAB Executive Board and reviewed by the FAB at a meeting to occur no later than February 28th. The number of at-large members to be elected will be determined upon notification from the Secretary to the Faculty Senate as to the number of eligible COE representatives (per the FSU Constitution). The required number of faculty members receiving the most votes will be COE Faculty Senators and the next two will serve as alternates.
 - 3) As senator positions become available the following process will be used to

replace senators until compliance with the selection process has been achieved. If a unit is not represented on the Faculty Senate with the current members then that unit will elect a senator. If all units are represented then an at-large senator will be elected. When compliance has been reached then unit representatives for SM and STE will be elected in even years and EPLS and ELPS in odd years. Two at-large senators will be elected in even years and two in odd years.

- 4) In the event that the university determined number of representatives changes for the College of Education, then the number of at-large members will be adjusted.

SECTION G: Advisory Councils

1. Departmental Student Advisory Councils

Student Advisory Councils shall be established in departments for the purpose of ensuring student participation in decision-making. The procedures for selecting students shall ensure broad representation of student opinion. It is also provided that departments may exercise the option of establishing combined faculty-student committees as authorized in the Faculty Senate resolutions establishing such committees.

2. College Student Advisory Council

A College Student Advisory Council composed of Departmental Student Advisory Council Chairs shall be established and advised by a member of the Dean's administrative staff.

SECTION H: Departmental Governance

1. Departments shall be empowered to construct their own instruments of governance in order to deal with internal affairs provided that such instruments do not contravene the bylaws of the College or the University Constitution.
2. The authority to determine voting membership in the conduct of its internal affairs shall be reserved to the department.

SECTION I: Approval of Candidates for Graduation

The procedure for approving candidates for graduation in the College of Education shall be as follows:

1. Prior to graduation, the Dean shall circulate for approval the names of candidates for degrees and the response date to the appropriate department chairs of the College who shall inform their faculties.

2. If there is objection to any candidate, that candidate shall be informed of the nature of the objections and shall have the opportunity to appeal his/her case to an ad hoc Committee appointed by the Dean. The committee will consider the case and make its recommendations to the Dean.

SECTION J: Amendments

Amendments to the bylaws may be proposed in the following manner:

1. By petition of any 10% of the voting faculty of the College of Education (Section A, Article 3).
2. By petition of a simple majority of the Faculty Advisory Board such proposal shall be circulated at least two weeks in advance of a vote deadline. The amendment(s) become(s) part of the bylaws when approved by two-thirds of the faculty voting in a online survey ballot. The election by an online survey ballot shall be conducted by the Faculty Advisory Board.
3. In order for an amendment to pass, a majority of the voting faculty (Section A, Article 3) must participate in the election and a simple majority of voters must be in favor of the amendments.