

CONSTITUTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
MASSACHUSETTS FACULTY SENATE

1. Name. The name of this organization shall be the University of 1
Massachusetts Faculty Senate, hereafter referred to in this document as the 2
Senate. 3

2. Purpose. The Senate shall be organized to discuss and recommend 4
policies affecting the University as a whole, in accordance with the provisions 5
of Article 7 of this Constitution. The Senate shall also strive to promote 6
Faculty participation in developing policies and procedures within the various 7
colleges, schools, divisions, and departments of the University. The adoption 8
of this Constitution by the Faculty and its approval by the Board of Trustees 9
shall be considered an organizational act by the Faculty for the purpose of 10
delegating the study of such policies and procedures to a smaller representa- 11
tive group called the Senate. Election of the Senate shall as an act dissolve 12
the former Educational Policies Council of the University. 13

3. Powers. The Senate derives its powers from Article IX, paragraph 3, 14
Article XI, paragraph 1, and Article XII of the By-laws of the Board of 15
Trustees; these articles direct the President and his associates of the 16
Faculty to organize and suggest as areas for consideration by the Faculty as 17
a body "all important matters of the University.....its research, in- 18
struction, and welfare and discipline of the students". The Senate shall 19
have such powers as may hereafter be delegated to it by the Board of Trustees. 20
The Senate shall also have power to enact, amend, or repeal by-laws for its 21
internal functioning. 22

4. Membership. (a) The following officials of the University shall be 23
ex officio members of the Senate: President, Provost, Dean of the College of 24
Arts and Sciences, Dean of the College of Agriculture, Dean of the Graduate 25
School, Dean of the School of Home Economics, Dean of the School of Business 26

Administration, Dean of the School of Education, Dean of the School of
Engineering, Dean of the School of Nursing, Director of the Division of
Physical Education, Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, Dean of Men, Dean of
Women, Registrar, and Alumni Secretary.

(b) All other members of the Senate shall be elected. Elections shall
be held in accordance with Article 5 below, and with the pertinent sections
of the By-laws of the Senate.

(c) Only qualified voters, as defined in Article 5 below, who will have
had at least one academic year of service to the University at the time of
assuming membership shall be eligible for membership in the Senate, except in
the case of newly created colleges, schools, divisions, or departments, as
provided in the By-laws of the Senate, and except for newly assigned pro-
fessors of Military Science and Tactics and Air Science.

(d) The normal term of membership shall be three years. However, in
the first election, one-third of the membership shall be elected for one year,
one-third for two years, and one-third for three years. No elected member
shall succeed himself; after an interval of one year a member of the Faculty
again becomes eligible for election. The first election shall be held before
the close of the academic year 1956-57; subsequent regular elections shall be
held during the month of September.

(e) An elected member of the Senate who resigns from the Faculty or is
on leave of absence forfeits his membership in the Senate permanently from
the effective date of such resignation or temporarily during the term of
such leave of absence, thus creating a vacancy in the Senate.

(f) By-elections shall be held within one month after the beginning of
classes in each regular semester to fill vacancies in the Senate.

(g) The ratio of elected members to ex officio members shall exceed
the ratio of 2 to 1.

5. Election Procedure: (a) Regular elections and by-elections of Senate members shall always be conducted by secret ballot.

(b) All qualified voters shall have an opportunity to vote in every regular election or by-election. A qualified voter is any full-time Faculty member who is not in his first regular semester of service to the University and who is not on leave of absence.

(c) The By-laws may prescribe procedures for making nominations and holding elections consistent with the provisions of this article.

6. Functions. (a) The Senate shall hold at least one regular meeting each month during the academic year, beginning in October and ending in May.

(b) Special meetings may be held when appropriate and may be called in one of the following ways: (1) The President of the University may call a special meeting; (2) twenty percent of the membership of the Senate, by petition to the President of the Senate, may call a special meeting; (3) ten percent of the membership of the Faculty may, by petition to the President of the Senate, call a special meeting.

(c) The President of the University shall be President of the Senate and shall normally preside at its meetings; in the absence of the President, if the President so desires, the Provost shall preside; in the absence of both the President and the Provost, the Secretary or Acting Secretary of the Senate shall call the meeting to order and conduct the election of a temporary presiding officer.

(d) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the ex officio members and a majority of the elected members.

(e) A Secretary shall be elected by the Senate from the membership of the Senate each year for a term of one year. He shall publish and distribute the agenda to the Faculty, shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Senate and shall publish to the Faculty a summary of actions taken. If the Secretary

of the Senate is to be absent from a regular or special meeting of the Senate, he shall delegate a member of the Senate to carry out his duties during his absence.

(f) The Senate shall require regular reports from its standing committees and special reports from its ad hoc committees, if any. It shall also receive, on request, reports from the committees of the Faculty.

7. Relations among Trustees, President, Senate, and Faculty.

(a) The Board of Trustees is the final authority on all policies.

(b) The Senate shall be consulted on matters pertaining to educational policy.

(c) The President of the University may ask the Senate to reconsider its actions.

(d) Any action of the Senate that requires approval by the Board of Trustees shall be forwarded to the Board of Trustees by the President of the University with his comment thereon, unless the Senate, upon reconsideration as specified in (c) above, rescinds its actions.

(e) The Faculty may overrule an action of the Senate by a majority vote of the Faculty members present and voting at any general Faculty meeting.

(f) The President of the University appoints all committees of the University Faculty. At least one elected member of the Senate shall be a member of each committee of the University Faculty. These committees report to the President of the University and shall report to the Senate on request.

8. Committees of the Senate. (a) The Senate shall establish such standing committees of the Senate as the By-laws direct, and may create additional ad hoc committees.

(b) The President of the Senate shall appoint all members of all committees of the Senate, subject to ratification by the Senate.

(c) The chairman of each committee of the Senate must come from the

membership of the Senate. Membership of committees of the Senate shall normally come from within the Senate, but may on occasion be comprised of persons from without the Senate, including students and alumni.

9. Constitutional Amendment Procedure. This Constitution may be adopted by a majority vote of those present and voting at a general Faculty meeting; it may be amended by a majority vote of those present and voting at a general Faculty meeting, provided that the proposed amendment has been presented at a previous Faculty meeting. An action to adopt or amend this Constitution is effective only after it has been approved by the Board of Trustees.

Suggested BY-LAWS OF THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE.

1. By-laws of the Senate may be adopted, amended, or repealed by a three-fifths vote of those present at a regular or special meeting of the Senate or by a majority vote of those present at a regular or special meeting of the Faculty, provided that the proposed change has been presented at a previous meeting. The vote shall be by written ballot.

2. Meetings of the Senate shall be conducted in parliamentary procedure in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order (Revised Edition).

3. The Secretary of the Senate shall be elected at the last regular meeting of the Senate during an academic year and shall assume the duties of his office at the conclusion of that meeting.

4. An agenda for each regular meeting of the Senate shall be made up of all items submitted to the Secretary and shall be sent to each member of the Faculty at least five working days prior to the meeting. The agenda for each special meeting shall be sent to the Faculty at least two working days prior to the meeting, and shall include a statement of the authority by which the special meeting was called. Senators having new business to be placed upon the agenda shall notify the Secretary of the nature of this business

at least seven working days before the date of the meeting, but additional
new business not on the agenda may be brought up from the floor after that
on the agenda, or prior to it by a majority vote of the Senate.

5. The standing committees of the Senate shall include a Committee on
Elections and such other committees as the Senate deems necessary for its
operation. Vacancies on standing committees shall be filled by appointment
during the first thirty calendar days of each semester, or within a month of
their occurrence. Appointments shall expire with the member's term of office,
if the member is a senator, or one year from the date of his appointment, if
he is not a senator.

6. The Committee on Elections shall conduct regular elections in
September and by-elections during the first twenty-one days of each regular
semester for those districts in which vacancies are to be filled. Elections
shall be held independently in the several election districts, but the
Committee on Elections must approve the nomination and election procedures
in each district. The Committee on Elections shall also recommend changes
in election districts to the Senate for approval, as necessary, to conform
with the following principles: (a) each college, school, or division, the
departments of Air Science and Military Science, and the members of the pro-
fessional staff above grade 12 who are not assigned to any department shall
constitute one or more election districts; (b) one of the above units
which contains more than 100 qualified voters may be subdivided into election
districts, each of which should contain at least 40 qualified voters:
(c) each department shall be entirely within one election district, and de-
partments or other subdivisions should be grouped in a reasonable manner.

7. The number of members to be elected to the Senate from each district
shall be the nearest whole number to $1/25$ the number of full time professional
positions above grade 12 allotted to that district, plus $1/200$ the number of

major student enrollment in that district. Both figures are to be based on official statistics of the preceding year. The election of members shall be determined by majority vote where one member is to be elected from a district and by rank plurality of votes cast where more than one member is to be elected from a district. In view of the fact that the Division of Military Science has no full time ex officio representative, they shall elect one member from each branch of Military Service represented at the University of Massachusetts.

8. Elected candidates shall assume membership immediately upon their election.

9. When a new college or school is created, the dean shall be an ex-officio member of the Senate. During the first two years after the creation of a college, school, division, or department, all members of the Faculty in that college, school, division, or department shall be qualified voters, without regard to the period of their prior service to the University, and shall be eligible for membership in the Senate.