



# Faculty Senate

The Faculty Senate will meet on Friday, April 3, 2020, from 2:10-4:00pm  
VIA WEBEX

## AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on March 13, 2020
3. Recognition of Senators with Terms Ending
4. UPDATE: Financial and Operations Planning around COVID-19 (Thomas LeBlanc, President)
5. REPORT: Library Priorities, Opportunities, and Challenges (Geneva Henry, University Librarian)
6. RESOLUTION 20/11: To Amend the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate (Sylvia Marotta-Walters, Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee)
7. Introduction of Resolutions
8. GENERAL BUSINESS
  - a) Nominations for election of new members to Senate standing committees
  - b) Election of the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (see attached)
  - c) Election of the Senate Parliamentarian: Professor Steve Charnovitz
  - d) Election of the Dispute Resolution Committee Chair: Professor Joan Schaffner
  - e) Reports of Standing Committees
  - f) Report of the Executive Committee: Professor Sylvia Marotta-Walters, Chair
    - Report on FSEC Emergency Resolutions (see attached)
      - i. Res 20/12: To Amend the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate in Light of COVID-19
      - ii. Res 20/13: On Electronic Faculty Meeting Procedures in the Schools
  - g) Provost's Remarks
  - h) Chair's Remarks
9. Brief Statements and Questions
10. Adjournment

**Elizabeth A. Amundson**  
Secretary



# Faculty Senate

## April 2020 Senators Completing Terms

### CCAS

Bill Briscoe  
Holly Dugan  
Dan Schwartz

### ESIA

(none)

### GSEHD

(none)

### GWSB

Sharon Hill

### GWSPH

Anne Markus  
Melissa Perry

### LAW

Karen Brown  
Bob Cottrol

### SEAS

Robert Harrington

### SMHS

Tony Sidawy

### SON

Christine Pintz



## Faculty Senate

### **A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE FACULTY SENATE (20/11)**

**WHEREAS**, the schedule for Senate meetings should provide more predictability to Faculty Senators who need to balance multiple academic and professional commitments;

**WHEREAS**, Faculty Senators may have family responsibilities on a late Friday afternoon; and

**WHEREAS**, open-ended Senate meetings can be onerous for the numerous University staff that serve Senate meetings;

**WHEREAS**, there have been instances when the Senate has lost the required quorum as defined in the Faculty Organization Plan during long meetings, prohibiting votes by the Senate;

**NOW, THEREFORE**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

1. That Section 2 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate be amended by adding as paragraph (g):

"The Senate should normally convene at 2pm and adjourn at 4:30pm. A motion to adjourn, if offered, shall require a majority vote as usual. It is the sense of the Senate that members should have a reasonable advance expectation of the latest time that a Senate meeting will adjourn so that members can plan other activities. Members should keep the time of the day in mind in framing their remarks."

2. That Section 2(d) of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate be amended by striking the current text and inserting the following: "The Agenda for a regular meeting shall be available to members in writing on the Senate's website, and a link to that Agenda shall be sent to all members on or before the seventh day before the meeting day."

Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate  
February 28, 2020

Amended by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 27, 2020



# Faculty Senate

April 3, 2020

## Nominees for Approval by the Faculty Senate

### **2020-2021 Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

CCAS: Guillermo Orti

ESIA: Nick Vonortas

GSEHD: Shaista Khilji

GWSB: Art Wilson, Chair

GWSPH: Jim Tielsch

LAW: Miriam Galston

SEAS: Kim Roddis

SMHS: Ellen Costello

SON: Ellen Kurtzman

### **2020-2021 Faculty Senate Parliamentarian**

Steve Charnovitz, Law School

### **2020-2021 Dispute Resolution Committee Chair**

Joan Schaffner, Law School



## Faculty Senate

### **A RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE BYLAWS OF THE FACULTY SENATE IN LIGHT OF COVID-19 (20/12)**

**WHEREAS**, Article III, Section 2(b) of the Faculty Organization Plan (FOP) states that the Senate Bylaws may provide for "other officers" of the Senate;

**WHEREAS**, Article III, Section 4(b) of the FOP conditions a quorum and voting on members being "present";

**WHEREAS**, Article III, Section 4(e) of the FOP authorizes the Senate "to adopt such bylaws and other rules concerning its government and procedures as it considers appropriate";

**WHEREAS**, Article III, Section 5(b)(6) of the FOP authorizes the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the Senate in "emergencies";

**WHEREAS**, Section 9 of the Bylaws of the Senate provides that the Executive Committee may originate amendments to the Bylaws at the suggestion of the Parliamentarian; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 9 of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised provides that parliamentary law may be extended to electronic meetings through a society's Bylaws;

### **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

1. That Section 1 of the Bylaws be amended by adding as paragraph (d):

"Whenever the Chair of the Executive Committee determines that urgent circumstances of health or safety exist, the Chair may designate a regular or special meeting of the Senate to be an Electronic (virtual) Meeting in which participation will be carried out remotely and in which the verification of a quorum will occur electronically."

2. That Section 6 of the Bylaws be amended by adding as paragraph (g):

"Notwithstanding this or any other provision in the Bylaws, when the Senate holds Electronic (virtual) Meetings, voting will be done electronically. Should technical problems occur that impede the accuracy of electronic voting or electronic roll-call voting, the procedures to be used for adopting resolutions will default to unanimous consent."

3. That Section 8 of the Bylaws be amended by adding as paragraph (d):

"The position of the Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee is hereby created to serve temporarily as Chair in the event that the Chair is unable to perform her duties. The Vice-Chair

shall be elected by the Executive Committee to serve until a new Vice-Chair is elected. The Vice-Chair will be elected from among the members of the Executive Committee."

4. That the terms "Chairman," "Chairmen," and "Vice-Chairman" in the FOP and Bylaws shall be understood in light of the customary usage of the terms "Chair," "Chairs," and "Vice-Chair" in Senate and Assembly practice.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 16, 2020

Adopted as amended by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 24, 2020



**A RESOLUTION ON ELECTRONIC FACULTY MEETING PROCEDURES IN THE SCHOOLS (20/13)**

**WHEREAS**, the "established procedures of governance devised by subdivisions of the university are subordinate to the letter and spirit of the *Faculty Code*"<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the spirit of the *Faculty Code* is that it will be effective in health emergencies as well as in normal times;

**WHEREAS**, the rules for the governance of each School "shall be consistent with the *Faculty Code* and the *Faculty Organization Plan*"<sup>2</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, all Schools have already begun or are planning to hold electronic Faculty meetings; and

**WHEREAS**, "All school procedures, rules, and criteria shall be approved by the Provost in consultation with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee"<sup>3</sup>;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY**

That the Faculty Senate Executive Committee urges the Provost to immediately adopt as a University Guideline that each School may implement procedures suitable to each School for electronic Faculty meetings without a need to have previously adopted Rules and Procedures allowing for such meetings.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 19, 2020

Adopted by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
March 20, 2020

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<sup>1</sup>Faculty Code Preamble.

<sup>2</sup>Faculty Code, Procedures, Section A headnote.

<sup>3</sup>Faculty Code, Procedures, Section A, last sentence.