
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

WASHINGTON, DC

SPECIAL FACULTY ASSEMBLY

December 6, 2023

via WebEx

CALL TO ORDER

Provost Bracey called the Assembly to order at 4:02pm.

MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes from the [Fall 2022 Faculty Assembly](#) and the [Fall 2023 Faculty Assembly](#) were approved by unanimous consent.

FACULTY ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 24/1: To Amend the *Faculty Organization Plan* (Ilana Feldman, Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee)

Professor Feldman [introduced](#) the resolution and moved its adoption; the motion was seconded. The Provost opened the floor to questions or comments on the resolution. No questions or comments were offered.

The Provost then asked whether any faculty members wished to offer amendments to the proposed changes to the *Faculty Organization Plan* (FOP). He relayed the Parliamentarian's advice that any amendment must be germane and can only add to, change, or strike the redlined text proposed in the resolution. Amendments to the redlined text would be considered first, followed by amendments to the Whereas clauses. No amendments were offered to the resolution.

The [resolution](#) was approved by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10pm.



Faculty Assembly Resolution 24/1 Introduction

Ilana Feldman, Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Faculty Assembly Resolution 24/1 comes to the Assembly today as a result of extensive work by the Senate committee on Professional Ethics and Academic Freedom (PEAF) last year. The committee studied the *Faculty Organization Plan* (FOP) and solicited input from numerous stakeholders before recommending, through two separate Senate resolutions, amendments to the FOP. The Senate approved both resolutions. The next step in the process is for these amendments to be considered by the Assembly. Article 4 of the FOP sets the threshold for amending the articles of the FOP at either two-thirds of those voting, or a majority of the voting members of the Assembly, whichever is the lesser.

If the Assembly approves the amendments, they will be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval at their next meeting, at which point the amendments will be in effect.

The resolution, posted with the Faculty Assembly agenda, includes both Senate resolutions (23/6 and 23/8) as well as a complete redline of the FOP showing all the changes offered for approval today. In the resolution document, and for ease of reference during the meeting, this redline appears with the header “FA 24-1 COMPLETE REDLINE VERSION” and page numbers.

Briefly, Senate Resolution 23/6 proposed several amendments to the FOP to address the following areas:

- Considering alternatives to in-person Assembly attendance to permit virtual participation and voting, prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- Writing rules to establish the procedures for deciding whether a Faculty Assembly meeting should be conducted virtually;
- Updating the language around how Faculty Assembly meetings are announced—this responsibility now rests with the Faculty Senate Office, which provides notice of meetings by electronic, rather than regular, mail;
- Updating the titles of several university administrators; and
- Ensuring the FOP is free of gender bias in its language

Senate Resolution 23/8 establishes provisions for Senate representation from the College of Professional Studies (CPS):

- CPS will be able to elect two of its faculty members as delegates. Delegates will not have the right to vote in meetings of the Faculty Senate but will otherwise enjoy all responsibilities, rights, and privileges of regular Faculty Senate members.
- From CPS, any regular faculty with non-tenure-track appointment shall be eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate, provided that such Regular Faculty shall have completed at least three years of full-time service to the University and shall have attained the rank of Associate Professor or higher. Their terms of office shall be the same as that of regular members of

the Senate, and their election shall follow the same rules as that of regular faculty members of the Senate, as described in Section 3.

- One of the two CPS delegates will be eligible for election to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

In Resolution 23/8, the Senate also approved changes to the Senate bylaws. These do not require Assembly or Board approval, but these changes serve to provide clarification on the role of CPS Senate delegates:

- CPS delegates will not count toward a quorum for Senate meetings;
- CPS delegates will have voting rights in the Faculty Senate committees on which they serve, **excluding** the Executive Committee; and
- The lack of voting rights in regular and special meetings of the Faculty Senate and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee shall be reviewed within three years after seating the first CPS Delegates.

One technical correction is required to remove an extra word that should have been deleted in the cleanup of the text. On page 6 of the complete redline included with the resolution, in Article III (The Faculty Senate), Section 4 (Meetings), item (b), the word “regular” was inadvertently left in the redline sentence. This text should read “Faculty members who attend virtually when permitted are to be counted toward the quorum and may vote electronically.” Based on the Parliamentarian’s advice, this technical correction can be made without a formal vote to amend the resolution.

These proposed amendments update the FOP to reflect current titles, language, and practices, and importantly, provide Senate representation to a degree-granting school of the university that did not previously have this right. I hereby move consideration and adoption of Faculty Assembly Resolution 24/1.