Faculty Senate 101

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“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.”

-- Oprah Winfrey

Here’s almost everything you need to know about being a Faculty Senator...
Shared Governance

Shared Governance is the process by which the faculty and the administration collaboratively make decisions.

In this process, the faculty are represented by the Faculty Senate (i.e., you).

The goal is to reach informed and inclusive decisions.

It is crucial to have transparency, a common vision, a sense of purpose and the ability to consider all viewpoints.

Perhaps our greatest challenge in the Faculty Senate is creating and maintaining trust and respect. We recognize that respect and trust are hard to get, but easy to lose.

Trust, Respect

Faculty Senate

Trust, Respect

Faculty  Administration

There could be times that you will be called upon to make a decision that is in conflict between what you think is best for OSU and what you think your colleagues would like. And, there is no correct answer here.
Faculty Senate Structure

Faculty Senate consists of 132 elected representatives from 18 apportionment units.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee consists of Faculty Senate Officers (President, President-Elect, Immediate Past President, the Senior Interinstitutional FS Representative), and 6 at-large members.

Faculty Senate Committees
## Faculty Senate Committees

1. Academic Advising Council
2. Academic Regulations Committee
3. Academic Requirements Committee
4. Academic Standing Committee
5. Administrative Appointments Committee
6. Advancement of Teaching Committee
7. Baccalaureate Core Committee
8. Budgets & Fiscal Planning Committee
9. Bylaws and Nominations Committee
10. Committee on Committees
11. Computing Resources Committee
12. Curriculum Council
13. Diversity Council
14. Faculty Economic Welfare and Retirement Committee
15. Faculty Grievance Committee
16. Faculty Recognition and Awards Committee
17. Faculty Status Committee
18. Graduate Admissions Committee
19. Graduate Council
20. Library Committee
21. Online Education Committee
22. Promotion & Tenure Committee
23. Research Council
24. Student Recognition & Awards Committee
25. Undergraduate Admissions Committee
26. University Honors College Council
Faculty Senate Responsibilities

Our two most important responsibilities are:

- control of the **Promotion and Tenure rules**
- control of the **curriculum**
Curricular Proposal Review Process (Internal to OSU)

Proposal Development by Faculty in an Academic Unit
College, School, Unit, or Program

Liaison contact throughout OSU and with Public and Private Institutions in Oregon as appropriate.

Budget Preparation by a Business Center

Unit Level Review and Approval
(Unit Curriculum Committee and Unit Head)

College Level Review and Approval
(College Curriculum Committee and Dean)

Budgets and Fiscal Planning Committee
(Faculty Senate)

Graduate Council (Faculty Senate)

Curriculum Council (Faculty Senate)

Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Faculty Senate

Provost’s Office
Curricular Proposal Review Process (External to OSU)

1. Provost’s Office
2. OSU Board of Trustees
   - Academic Strategies Committee
3. Statewide Provosts’ Council
4. Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)
5. (Possibly) Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
Other Faculty Senate Responsibilities

But, FS is also involved in many other things (this is from the Bylaws):

1. **Determine and establish** the purposes of Oregon State University;
2. **Formulate and evaluate policies and activities** in harmony with these purposes;
3. **Assume responsibility for the creation, maintenance, and protection** of an environment conducive to the **full and free development and preservation of scholarly learning, teaching, and research**;
4. Provide the means by which the **administration may be appraised** of representative opinion of the entire Faculty;
5. Have **legislative responsibility** with respect to academic policies, educational standards, curricula, and academic regulations;
6. Study and prepare recommendations to the President of Oregon State University concerning the **welfare** of the Faculty;
7. Provide **the means** through which any **matters of general interest** to the Faculty or pertaining to the institution and its purpose may be brought to the Faculty Senate for **discussion and appropriate action**.
Your Responsibilities at FS Meetings

Attend! And be on time. (It is always the second Thursday, Jan-June, Oct-Dec, 3:00-5:00, so program it on your calendar.) Locations might vary.

Sign-in on the sheets sitting on the table outside the auditorium. Note that remote participants must sign in to the Chat Room with their ‘real’ name so attendance can be accurately reflected.

Represent your apportionment unit (each academic college plus ROTC, Off-campus Extension, Student Affairs, Library, Cascades, Hatfield, and Associated Faculty).

We webcast our FS meeting, so wait to get a microphone when you want to speak so that remote participants can hear you.

When you speak, please state your first and last name and apportionment unit for the record.

Vote on motions. In the past, this has been by voice vote. We now use electronic “clickers” like those used in our classes. However, a paper ballot vote is required on Bylaws issues.

Vote

- Yes
- No
- Abstain

Weren’t paying attention
Your Responsibilities at FS Meetings

Attend! And be on time. (It is almost always the second Thursday, Jan-June, Oct-Dec, 3:00-5:00, so program it on your calendar.)

If you are out of town, you can still attend!
The FS webcasts the meetings via WebEx and takes questions and comments via the chat window. Go to:

http://senate.oregonstate.edu/webex-instructions

for more information. You can also vote remotely.
Your Responsibilities Between FS Meetings

Continue to represent your apportionment unit by letting them know what happened at the last FS meeting. This is easier than it sounds. We maintain apportionment unit-by-unit email reflectors you can use.

Gather input from constituents (or colleagues). (Ditto about the email reflectors.)

Pay attention to what goes on in your apportionment unit. What’s the buzz? What are the issues that they care about? What issues should the Faculty Senate hear about?

As materials come out in preparation for the next FS meeting, study them before the FS meeting.

Plan to attend the next FS meeting, or send a proxy to speak or vote in your place. This can be anyone who would have been eligible to be elected from your apportionment unit. We may be able to help with this.

If you have questions or issues you want to get on the FS radar, contact:

Jon Dorbolo (jon.dorbolo@oregonstate.edu)
Vickie Nunnemaker (vickie.nunnemaker@oregonstate.edu)
Incoming 2018 Faculty Senate President Jon Dorbolo

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