

MEMORANDUM

TO Fort Wayne Senate
FROM: Jeffrey Nowak, Executive Committee Chair
DATE: 03/20/2026
SUBJ: Amendments to the Bylaws of the Senate – Committees

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee is empowered by the Senate Constitution (Section III.C.3.a.vii.) to propose amendments to the Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, pressures internal and external to the Fort Wayne Senate have created the need for significant amendments to the Bylaws in recent years (e.g., SD 23-30, SD 25-5), especially in relation to its committees; and

WHEREAS, experience with those earlier amendments, along with other developments, has exposed the need for further (but less extensive) changes to the Bylaws;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fort Wayne Senate agrees to the following amendments to its Bylaws; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these amendments do not become effective until the first day of the 2026-2027 academic year.

<Senate Meeting Order of Business>

I.A.3.5.7. Committee reports requiring action. ~~Every agenda item shall be labelled as “for discussion,” “for action,” or “for information.” Unless the Executive Committee decides otherwise, the default shall be that no item is designated as “for action” that was not designated as “for discussion” on a previous agenda.~~

<Elections to Committees>

I.B.3.2.2. Committees shall have the power to fill vacancies for the remainder of an academic year, subject to Senate approval at its next regular meeting and to the guidelines established in this document (see subsections 3.1.1 and 4.1). **Individuals who are chosen to fill vacancies begin their terms immediately upon Senate ratification.**

I.B.3.2.3. Any committee position that has been vacant for at least one month when regularly scheduled committee elections occur shall be declared as permanently vacated so that Nominations and Elections can conduct elections to fill those positions for full three-year terms. In the event that this action would eliminate the staggered nature of the positions on that committee, one of the individuals chosen in these elections would only serve a one-year term.

<Membership of Senate Committees>

I.B.4.1. Membership. No member of the Teaching Faculty may serve on more than ~~two~~ **three** standing committees in a given academic year, ~~and no member of the Teaching Faculty may be nominated to serve on any standing committee such that the results of the relevant election could lead that nominee to serve on more than two standing committees in a given academic year.~~ This provision does not count service on ad-hoc committees, boards, or councils against the maximum number of committees on which a member of the Teaching Faculty may serve since these entities are not considered to be standing committees (see Section **I.B.2.7**).

<Membership of the Executive Committee>

II.A.1. Membership. The Executive Committee shall have the membership established in the Constitution, Subsection **III.C.3.a**: *the Chair, the Chair Elect, and the Past Chair Faculty Chairs of the Senate, the Parliamentarian of the Senate as an ex officio, non-voting member; and four senators elected by the Senate in such manner that each is from a different major unit.*

<Membership of the Professional Development Subcommittee>

III.B.5.1.1. seven members of the ~~Voting Faculty and lecturers~~ **Teaching Faculty** elected at large by the Voting Faculty subject to the restriction that no more than three shall come from the same Major Unit.

<Membership of the Faculty Mediation Committee>

V.A.3. Membership. The Faculty Mediation Committee shall be comprised of tenured members of the Voting Faculty, each representing a different major unit, selected to staggered three-year terms by the Provost and the ~~Chair-Elect, the Chair, and Past Chair~~ **Faculty Chairs** of the Senate from a panel of nominees solicited by the Nominations and Elections Committee.

<Membership of the Intellectual Diversity Complaint Advisory Review Board>

V.F.1.1.2. They shall be selected to staggered, three-year terms by the Chancellor and the ~~Chair, Chair-elect, and Past Chair~~ **Faculty Chairs** of the Fort Wayne Senate.