

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
(Final; Action)

SP.25.04 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.8 – Committee on Educational Policy

BACKGROUND

At its March 7, 2022 meeting, the Senate approved SP.20.05, which struck *Standing Rule 13* and fully revised *Bylaws D.8*, which governs the charge of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EP). *Standing Rule 13* had contained material related to the steps to be followed for major changes in the organization of academic units, including their formation and termination. It also specified directing processes, such as collecting input and holding public hearings on proposed changes in organization. Much of that material was incorporated into *Bylaws D.8.c*, which describes the processes EP uses for its work. *Bylaws D.8.c.4* consolidated the processes around public hearings originally found in *Standing Rule 13*.

EP recommends revising the portion of the EP *Bylaws* to provide a clear specification on the process for the public hearing requirement for a proposal to change the status of an academic unit. The current language states that EP must hold the public hearing. EP's responsibility, however, is only to ensure that a public hearing is held. For uncontroversial proposals, the public hearing typically can be incorporated into a regularly scheduled EP meeting. For controversial or complex proposals, however, the sponsor of the proposal would be responsible for arranging the public hearing at a time and location that accommodates stakeholders and the public.

Based on the three years of positive experience with the incorporation of *Standing Rule 13* into the EP section of the *Bylaws*, EP now recommends a clarification regarding the public hearing. In addition to EP's recommendations, SP suggests refining the language used to describe EP's duties, including its legislative functions. In this proposed revision, these functions are more clearly listed and the remaining duties are reorganized for clarity.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is ~~struck through~~ and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

- 1 **REVISION TO THE BYLAWS, PART D.8. – Committee on Educational Policy**
- 2 **8. Committee on Educational Policy**
- 3 ~~a. Legislative Jurisdiction~~

4 ~~Fulfilling the Senate's legislative jurisdiction (*Statutes*, Article II, Sections 1.b, c, and e),~~
5 ~~the Committee on Educational Policy shall work to address all matters that come before~~
6 ~~it for review, recognizing that some educational policy matters require approval beyond~~
7 ~~the campus, and that implementation of said matters may not occur until final approval~~
8 ~~has been granted. The Committee shall make recommendations to the Senate pursuant~~
9 ~~to its statutory duties, respecting the jurisdiction given to the colleges (provided in~~
10 ~~*Statutes*, Article III, Section 2c).~~

11 a. Scope

- 12 1. Changes to educational policy shall be established only upon approval of the Senate.
13 (*Statutes* Article II, Section 1.e)
14 2. Before implementation, some matters of educational policy may require approval
15 beyond this University by bodies such as the University of Illinois Board of Trustees,
16 University Senates Conference, Illinois Board of Higher Education, Higher Learning
17 Commission, Council on Teacher Education, and any other credentialing agency.
18 3. The Committee's recommendations to the Senate shall be made with recognition of
19 the jurisdiction given to the college in matters of educational policy falling within the
20 scope of the college's programs. (*Statutes* Article III, Section 2.c)

21 b. Duties

- 22 1. Review and make timely recommendations to the Senate on educational policy
23 matters of educational policy including, but not limited to:
24 a. Fulfilling the Senate's legislative responsibilities regarding matters of
25 educational policy affecting this university. (*Statutes*, Article II, Section 1.b)
26 ab. g-Grading regulations and requirements for degrees, majors, minors,
27 concentrations, transcriptable credentials, and other programs of study;
28 (*Statutes*, Article II, Section 1.c)
29 bc. f-Relations among colleges, schools, and other teaching divisions regarding
30 programs of study; (*Statutes*, Article II, Section 1.c)
31 c. academic calendars, specifying the beginning and ending dates of the
32 academic year, the division of the academic year into semesters and

33 ~~sessions, and official University holidays, as well as recommending for Senate~~
34 ~~approval the policies governing the calendar; and other matters of general~~
35 ~~educational policy.~~

36 d. Creation of the Academic Calendar policy and each year's Academic
37 Calendar, with the assistance of the Clerk of the Senate, and approval of the
38 Senate. Each calendar shall specify the start and end dates of the academic
39 year, the division of the academic year into semesters and sessions, including
40 periods of instruction, examinations, breaks, and official University holidays.
41 (Statutes, Article II, Section 1.c)

42 2. Offer counsel to interested parties, including those submitting proposals.
43 Consultation may include discussing potential proposals, their impacts, the review
44 process, or other committee procedures.

45 ~~2. Prior to any attempt to implement, r~~

46 3. Review and make timely recommendations to the Senate, prior to implementation,
47 regarding on all proposals to:

48 a. ~~to initiate, discontinue, or revise~~ Establish, revise, or eliminate programs of
49 study, especially those ~~which affect units outside of the~~ that may have an
50 impact on units outside the sponsoring unit;

51 b. ~~to c~~ Change the status in organization of an academic unit, including the
52 formation, termination, separation, transfer, merger, change in status, or
53 renaming of such unit(s). For this type of proposal, the Committee shall also
54 work with the sponsoring unit to:

55 1. Ensure that a public hearing is held to allow active full discussion of the
56 proposal, and that the proposal's sponsor and the chair of the Senate
57 Committee on Educational Policy or the chair's designee attends the
58 public hearing.

59 2. Attach minutes and written comments from the public hearing to the
60 proposal before transmittal to the Senate.

- 61 3. Verify that all requirements for notification and consultation outlined
62 in the *Statutes* have been satisfied. Such requirements include
63 consultation with all affected units and stakeholders, and
64 documentation of each unit's advice through a faculty vote in
65 ~~accordance with~~ according to its bylaws. (*Statutes*, Article VIII, Section
66 4); and
- 67 c. ~~that require approval from entities beyond campus, including, but not limited~~
68 ~~to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, University Senates Conference,~~
69 ~~Illinois Board of Higher Education, Higher Learning Commission, Council on~~
70 ~~Teacher Education, and any other credentialing agency.~~
- 71 34. ~~Collect, review, and share with~~ report to the Senate, making timely
72 ~~recommendations to the Senate, the following types of~~ informational reports
73 ~~received from academic units that;~~ and, if necessary, make timely
74 recommendations to the Senate.
- 75 a. ~~Change in~~ the mode of instruction of an approved program of study;
76 b. ~~Temporarily suspend~~ suspension of enrollment to an approved program of
77 study; ~~or,~~
- 78 c. ~~Change in~~ the status of an approved program of study to a Non-Admission
79 Designated Program that would no longer directly admit students but would
80 award degrees.
- 81 4. ~~Act as point of contact for any interested parties, including those issuing proposals.~~
82 ~~Interested parties may consult with the Committee or its Chair regarding potential~~
83 ~~proposals, their impacts, steps in their review, or Committee processes.~~
- 84 c. ~~Process~~
- 85 ~~For each matter discussed above, the Committee shall work with units to make them aware~~
86 ~~of the need for any additional approvals and ensure that proposals and reports required by~~
87 ~~the Senate or other bodies contain all necessary information, and shall:~~
- 88 5. Ensure proposals and reports required by the Senate or other bodies:
89 a. Contain all necessary information and approvals.

- 90 ~~1b. assess whether such proposals and reports are consistent~~ Comply with
91 ~~general policies over which the Senate has legislative jurisdiction (*Statutes*,~~
92 ~~Article II, Sections 1.b, c, and e);~~
93 ~~2c. collect, as necessary, relevant information including~~ Include the projected
94 ~~impact of the proposed changes on enrollment, staffing, and resources, to~~
95 ~~ensure that the educational goals of the relevant program can be met;~~
96 ~~3d. e-Evaluate the projected impact of such proposals on other units and~~
97 ~~stakeholders, and assess whether they have been substantively consulted,~~
98 ~~and determining~~ determine if additional actions that might be are needed,
99 ~~which may include~~ such as periodic re-evaluation of a the proposal's
100 progress or further Senate actions;
101 ~~4. hold a public hearing to provide active discussion in advance of any~~
102 ~~proposal to change the status of an academic unit, including the~~
103 ~~termination, separation, transfer, merger, change in status, or renaming of~~
104 ~~such unit(s) (*Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4), conducted with the originator~~
105 ~~of the proposal (e.g., dean of college, Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs),~~
106 ~~transmitting minutes of the hearing, as well as collecting and forwarding~~
107 ~~additional written comments, to the Senate;~~
108 ~~5. verify that all requirements in the Statutes for notification and consultation~~
109 ~~have been satisfied, including in the case of changes in organization that all~~
110 ~~affected units and stakeholders have been consulted and that the advice of~~
111 ~~each unit involved has been taken and recorded by a vote of the faculty in~~
112 ~~accordance with the bylaws of that unit (*Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4);~~
113 ~~and~~
114 6. ~~e-~~ Coordinate with the Office of the Provost to ensure that the Academic Catalog is
115 ~~kept~~ up to date and that updated information regarding all programs of study, and
116 records pertaining to such programs, are maintained by the relevant university
117 offices and are available to all affected stakeholders.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
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