




October 27, 2021

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees
FROM: Del Siegle, Chair, Senate Executive Committee 
RE: Notification of Proposed Changes to the *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut*

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees amend the *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut* Article IX – The University Senate.

BACKGROUND:

The *By-Laws of the University of Connecticut* may be amended at any regular meeting of the Board by a recorded majority of all members of the Board provided that notice of any proposed amendment, including a draft thereof, shall have been given at a previous regular meeting. This document represents such notice and the resolution calling for the described amendments should be acted upon at one of the next three meetings of the Board.

On October 4, 2021, the University Senate passed two recommendations to amend Sections A, B.3, and G of Article IX in the *By-Laws*. The first recommendation, to Sections A and B.3, asks the Board to increase professional staff representation on the University Senate from 9 seats to 17 seats. The second recommendation, to Section G, asks the Board to add a second professional staff seat to the Senate Executive Committee.

For the information of the Board, also attached is the original language of Article IX, with indications of the proposed amendments.

Article IX – The University Senate

(Deleted items struck through, new language underlined)

A. Membership

The University Senate shall consist of *ex officio* and elected members. The *ex officio* members shall be the President, the Provost, all Vice Presidents, except the Executive Vice President for Health Affairs, and all Vice Provosts. These *ex officio* members shall not vote.

The Senate shall contain ~~ninety-one~~ ninety-nine elected, voting members, as follows:

1. Three deans of the schools and colleges, which are Senate electoral constituencies (see Section B below).
2. Seventy-two members of the faculty elected according to one or the other of the two faculty electoral processes described in Section B.2. below.
3. ~~Nine~~ Seventeen professional staff members elected by and from the constituencies described in Section B.3. below.
4. Five undergraduate students (see Section B.4 below).
5. Two graduate students (see Section B.5. below).

B. Elections

3. The professional staff members shall be elected according to procedures approved by the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs from ~~four~~ seven constituencies as described below. Staff members are ineligible to stand for election or to vote in the first regular election following their initial appointment to the staff.
 - a. Academic Development (excluding regional campuses), who shall elect two senators.
 - ~~a. b.~~ Division of Student Affairs and Enrollment Planning and Management (excluding regional campuses), who shall elect two senators.
 - ~~b. c.~~ University libraries (excluding regional campuses), who shall elect one senator.

~~e.~~ d. Regional campuses, who shall elect ~~one~~ **four** senators; **one per campus for Avery Point, Hartford (to include Hartford, Social Work and School of Law), Stamford, Waterbury.**

e. **Schools/Colleges (excluding regional campuses), who shall elect one senator.**

f. **Division of Student Affairs (excluding regional campuses), who shall elect two senators.**

~~d.~~ g. All professional staff shall elect five at-large senators.

G. Committees

1. The Senate Executive Committee

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) shall consist of eight faculty members, ~~one~~ **two** professional staff members, and one undergraduate and one graduate student member. The faculty and professional staff members shall be elected by the Senate from among the elected members of the Senate who are not primarily administrators. Department heads and directors are not regarded as primarily administrators. The undergraduate and graduate members shall be selected from among and by all student members of the Senate. The Undergraduate Student Government and Graduate Student Senate Presidents or their student Senate member designee will serve as the interim student representatives to the Senate Executive Committee during the summer months until the permanent members are selected.

Elections shall follow the annual election of such members and shall normally take place in April. For faculty and professional staff members, a term of service on the Executive Committee shall begin on July 1 and shall be for three years. The term of membership in the Senate of a faculty or professional staff representative elected to the Executive Committee shall be automatically extended, if necessary, to be co-terminal. For the student member, the term of service shall be one year, renewable to a maximum of three consecutive years. After the annual election, the Senate shall elect one of the ~~nine~~ **ten** faculty and professional staff members to serve as Chair of the SEC for a one-year term, which may be renewed. A vacancy on the SEC shall be filled by election for the duration of the vacancy.