Your Role as Senator

Faculty Senate Retreat
August 13, 2018
Faculty Senate’s Purpose

• Shared governance – important and on the rise

• Empowered to act for the university faculty in all matters pertaining to the immediate government of the university

• Responsible to and reports to the university faculty and, through the president, to the regents
  • All three retain authority to review policy actions taken by the Senate (FSH 1520 Article I. Section 3.)

• Important issues impacting campus
  • e.g. advising, curricula, promotion and tenure, benefits, morale, salary, teaching evaluations, safety
  • Consideration of window of influence

• Everyone at the university is affected by decisions of the Senate.
Senator’s Role

• Represent a particular constituency

• Responsible for:
  • Bring perspectives of constituents to issues of importance while keeping the welfare of the entire institution in mind
  • Keep constituency apprised of issues that come before the Senate
  • Senators should voice critical perspectives when appropriate
  • Serve as a source of information on behalf of colleagues to the Senate and the university administration
Expectations

• Be prepared
• Regularly check the Senate website for updated meeting materials.
• Keep constituents informed
• Consider the broader issues and impact
• Rely on, and respect the work and time of others
• Suggest and encourage productive interactions with administration and stake-holders
• Up to date on university-wide issues/communications/activities
• Bring policy issues to the attention of the Senate Leadership.
• Ensure elections for constituent area are conducted appropriately
General Meeting Rules

• Speakers
  • recognized by the chair and once

• Voting by show of hands
  • No absentee/proxy votes (FSH 1580 V, Section 11)
    • Alternates/substitutes are welcomed
  • No abstentions asked for/recorded unless requested (FSH 1580 V, Section 11)

• Senate follows Roberts’s Rule of Order.