

Current R&P Text

The Chairperson of the Senate - as the senior representative of the Faculty and the leader of the Faculty component of the University governance system - shall be a Tenured Associate or Full Professor. The Senate will elect the Chairperson and the Vice-Chairperson by majority vote from the voting members of the Senate for two-year terms with the possibility of a single two-year extension for the Chairperson. An extension for the Chairperson requires a majority vote of the Senate.

If the Chairperson has reached the end of their term in office, then the Vice-Chairperson will automatically become Chairperson of the Senate unless two-thirds of the Senate vote to recommend a replacement. If the Senate votes for a replacement, then the Senate will elect a new Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson by a majority vote.

If at the end of their term as Vice-Chairperson, the current Chairperson has received an extension then the Vice-Chairperson will serve an additional two years as Vice-Chairperson unless two-thirds of the Senate votes to block this extension. However, if a two-year extension of the Vice-Chairperson would result in him or her continuously serving more than eight years in the Senate then the Senate will elect a new Vice-Chairperson by a majority vote.

*Proposed R&P Text (Additions in **bold red**, deletions are ~~strikethrough~~)*

The Chairperson of the Senate - as the senior representative of the faculty and the leader of the faculty component of the University governance system - shall be a Tenured Associate or Full Professor. **The Chairperson will serve a two-year term** with the possibility of a single two-year extension. An extension for the Chairperson requires a majority vote of the Senate. **Except in the extraordinary circumstances discussed below, the Vice Chairperson will be elected no later than May 1st** by a majority vote ~~from~~ **of the current** voting members of the Senate for a two-year term.

If the Chairperson has reached the end of their term in office **or the position of Chairperson is otherwise vacant**, then the Vice-Chairperson will automatically become Chairperson of the Senate unless two-thirds of the Senate vote to **block this automatic promotion**. ~~recommend a replacement~~. If the Senate votes to **block this promotion for a replacement, or the position of Vice-Chairperson is vacant**, the Senate will elect a new Chairperson and **a new** Vice-Chairperson by a majority vote **as soon as possible**.

If at the end of their term as Vice-Chairperson, the current Chairperson has received an extension then the Vice-Chairperson will **automatically** serve an additional two year as Vice-Chairperson unless two-thirds of the Senate votes to block this extension. However, if a two-year extension of the Vice-Chairperson would result in them continuously serving more than eight years in the Senate then the Senate will elect a new Vice-Chairperson by a majority vote.

Justification

The current R&P text is confusing. The current text doesn't consider the case where either the position of Chairperson or that of Vice-Chairperson is vacant for a reason other than the end of their term in office such as a medical issue. Revision clarifies that the Vice Chairperson and – if the position is vacant – the Chairperson will be elected by the current Senators not the Senators who will take office on July 1st. Also, it facilitates continuity of leadership if changes are made before the end of the Spring Semester.