

Rethinking the Structure of the Senate



Rationale

The Senate structure has been in place since 1975

- The World has changed
- The University is larger and more complex
- Higher Education is becoming more-and-more interdisciplinary

Rationale. II.

Who represents the Faculty?

- Students have the USG and GSO
- Professional staff have the PEG Board
- Faculty Senates represent
 - The School of Medicine
 - The School of Dental Medicine
 - The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences
- The Arts & Sciences Senate is not a Faculty Senate; it includes students and professional staff

Proposal

There will be an **Academic Senate**

- It will deal with all things academic:
 - Academic Planning and Resources
 - Academic Standing and Appeals
 - Curriculum
 - Faculty Rights and Responsibilities
 - Instructional Computing and Infrastructure
 - Judiciary
 - Professional Schools, including SPD
 - Promotion and Tenure
 - Undergraduate and Graduate student policies
 - Instructional Computing and Infrastructure

The Academic Senate will work with the **Provost**.

Academic Senate Membership

All full-time faculty, including Visiting Faculty and 99% clinical faculty who have a teaching responsibility, will be members of the **Academic Senate**

- Voting members of the Academic Senate:
 - Departmental Senators
 - At Large Senators chosen by college/school, in proportions to the number of student-hours taught in that college/school

Professional Staff may be voting members of Standing Committees, either by election or *ex-officio*

Proposal

There will be a **University Senate**

- It will be concerned with all non-academic issues:
 - Athletics
 - Computational Technology
 - Government and Public Relations
 - Law Enforcement, Public Safety, and Security
 - The Stony Brook Foundation
 - Sponsored Research
 - Student Life
 - University Environment
 - University Hospital

The University Senate will work with the **President**.

University Senate Membership

All faculty, professional staff, and students will be members of the **University Senate**

- Voting members of the University Senate:
 - All voting members of the Academic Senate
 - Representatives of the PEG Board, USG, and GSO, in proportions to be determined

All members of the University Senate will be eligible to serve on Standing Committees of the University Senate

Differences from the Current Structure

- Faculty get a more distinct and stronger voice
- Combining the 3 MGU Senates into one Academic Senate recognizes the interdisciplinarity of academics today
- Recognizes that while disciplines are distinctive, Curriculum, Judiciary, Faculty Rights, and Promotion and Tenure policies must adhere to a single campus-wide standard
- Gives a voice to East Campus schools (Nursing, Social Welfare, HTM)

Challenges

- Best suited for a campus with a single Provost
- Integrating the School of Medicine Senate may be difficult
- There is no explicit role for Deans in this structure