

PROPOSAL FOR A NEW CAMPUS GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

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OVERVIEW: This proposal presents a new faculty governance structure that closely mirrors the current structure. Two separate campus governance bodies are proposed: a **STATUTORY FACULTY ASSEMBLY** and a **UNIVERSITY SENATE**.

STATUTORY FACULTY ASSEMBLY

Charge and Responsibilities: The Statutory Faculty Assembly shall govern the University as stated in Oregon Law (ORS 352.210)¹ and re-affirmed in the 7 November 2008 Oregon Department of Justice opinion (DOJ-OP-6735)². The Statutory Faculty Assembly may choose to delegate some or all of its legal responsibilities to another governance body such as the University Senate, but must retain permanent oversight of that body including the ability to alter the charge and responsibilities of that body.

Membership: Membership of the Statutory Faculty Assembly shall consist of all tenured-related teaching faculty, senior non-tenure-track instructors on long term contracts, and emeriti professors.

Rules and Procedures: The chair of the Statutory Faculty Assembly shall be the University President. The Statutory Faculty Assembly shall adopt its own internal rules and procedures.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

Charge and Responsibilities: As delegated by the Statutory Faculty Assembly, the University Senate shall be the sole governing body of the University in all matters of university governance. The University Senate shall be responsible for the daily governance of the University including curriculum, awarding of degrees, student conduct and discipline, the University budget, personnel policies, and all other University matters affecting the academic quality and atmosphere of the University.³

Membership: Membership of the University Senate shall consist of 52 members distributed among officers of instruction (37), librarians (2), officers of administration (3), students (5), classified staff (3), Senate President (1) and Senate Vice President (1).⁴

Rules and Procedures: The chair of the University Senate shall be the University Senate President. The University Senate shall adopt its own internal rules and procedures.

¹ORS 352.010 states: "Status of faculty. The president and professors constitute the faculty of each of the state institutions of higher education and as such have the immediate government and discipline of it and the students therein. The faculty may, subject to the supervision of the State Board of Higher Education under ORS 351.070, prescribe the course of study to be pursued in the institution and the textbooks to be used."

²Full text of the Department of Justice opinion regarding the University of Oregon governance system can be found at <http://www.uoregon.edu/~assembly/dirSF/dirExtra/DOJ-OP-6735.pdf>

The charge and responsibilities of the proposed University Senate mirrors that of the current University Senate as detailed in the current University Senate Charter and Enabling Legislation (<http://www.uoregon.edu/~uosenate/SenateCharter.html>)

⁴The membership of the proposed University Senate is nearly identical to that of the current Senate membership except for the addition of the Senate Vice President.