

A1.4.1 Section 1. Function

The Faculty Senate is the official body that acts on behalf of the faculty of the University in interactions with other members and official bodies of the University. The duties of the Faculty Senate, subject to the powers and authority vested in the Board of Regents and the President of the University, include:

- 1.0** Providing a forum for the expression of faculty opinion;
- 2.0** Speaking on behalf of the faculty body of the University to the University community;
- 3.0** Considering and making policy recommendations to the Board of Regents and University President regarding the academic affairs of the University, particularly in the following areas: curricular matters; academic programs and standards; changes in graduation requirements, new degrees, new majors, or new academic programs; elimination of existing degrees or major programs; creation of new academic departments; standards for student admission and retention; and recommending changes to the faculty handbook, including advising the University President regarding standards and procedures for faculty evaluation;
- 4.0** Advising the University President on matters of University policy, including budgetary policies, faculty retention, or any other matter referred to it by the University President or Board of Regents;
- 5.0** Working to promote and maintain academic freedom; and
- 6.0** Overseeing the membership and function of all committees of the Faculty Senate and receiving, reviewing, remanding, approving, or disapproving recommendations from the standing committees of the Faculty Senate.

In exercising these functions of the Faculty Senate, it is anticipated that its members shall take all reasonable measures to ascertain faculty opinion by means of regular consultations with their constituency and other appropriate means, and that the Senate shall keep the faculty fully informed of the reasons for its decisions.