

FGCU FACULTY GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT

249

FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY

250

FACULTY GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

251

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Mission

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The purpose of faculty governance at Florida Gulf Coast University is to safeguard

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academic quality, promote effective and open communication, insist upon academic

271

integrity, emphasize rights and shared responsibilities of students, staff, community,

272

faculty, and administration, and sustain a dynamic learning environment. This mission is

273

accomplished through a system of collegial faculty self-governance ensuring that the

274

rights of faculty are supported and faculty responsibilities in fulfilling the mission of the

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university are properly executed.

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278

Vision

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280

The faculty governance process at Florida Gulf Coast University is dedicated to the

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principles, concepts, and objectives of the University mission and vision.

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283

Guiding Principles

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285

The Faculty Senate is an autonomous body representing the collective opinion of the

286

FGCU faculty to the administration and community.

287

288

The faculty governance structure enhances representation for all faculty members in the

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governance of the University.

290

291

The Faculty Senate promotes the rights and responsibilities of faculty with respect to:

292

- quality teaching and learning;

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- pursuing research and scholarly activity;

294

- providing service to our local, regional, national, and global communities; and,

295

- preserving and defending academic freedom.

296

Faculty governance requires coordinated faculty representation on university-wide

297

committees and task forces to provide input and oversight in faculty affairs and

298

recommendations concerning student, staff, campus, community, and administrative

299

affairs.

300

301

The Faculty Senate engages in collegial dialog with the President of the University, the

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Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs and others in positions of administrative

303

leadership in order to pursue and refine the mission of the University.

304

Collaborative and shared leadership among all university constituents is critical to

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creating a campus environment conducive to advancing student achievement. Fairness,

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306 mutual respect, continuous improvement, an informed faculty, and collegial decision-
307 making are the hallmarks of the governance structure.

308

309 The faculty governance system encourages transparency and reasoned discourse. To
310 accomplish these principles, the Faculty Senate shall authorize inquiry into and propose
311 policy relevant to FGCU's mission, vision, and guiding principles.

312

313 **Article 1. Definition of Terms**

314

315 The following terms, when used in this document only apply to faculty governance at FGCU and
316 have the meanings as assigned:

317 **Academic Unit:** Any one of the following: College of Arts and Sciences, Lutgert College of
318 Business, Marieb College of Health & Human Services, College of Education, U.A.
319 Whitaker College of Engineering, Library Services, and School of Entrepreneurship.

320 **Faculty:** Any full-time in-unit FGCU employee, including faculty in visiting status,

321 (1) whose job classification includes at least one of the following titles: Eminent Scholar,
322 Endowed Chair, Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor (I, II, III),
323 Lecturer, University Librarian, Associate University Librarian, Assistant University
324 Librarian, Instructor University Librarian, Program Director, or Academic Advisor (I, II,
325 III), and

326 (2) whose annual assignment consists primarily of support for the instructional function
327 of the University (greater than 50% of activities) must be directly related to teaching,
328 scholarship, and service), and

329 (3) whose annual assignment does not include supervisory evaluation of other ranked
330 faculty or having been defined by contract as administrative or managerial or
331 confidential employees of the University.

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332 **Faculty Governance Team:** The Faculty Senate, or any of the standing teams established in this
333 document, or any sub-teams, task forces, or *ad hoc* groups formed by the senate or the
334 standing teams.

335 **Article 2. Eligibility**

336

337 Any full-time faculty member is eligible to serve on the Faculty Senate and Senate
338 Teams, except as noted in section 4.02 Any full-time faculty member is eligible to vote in
339 all elections for faculty governance teams occurring during the term of his/her contract.
340 In-unit, full-time faculty serving on Faculty Senate, as well as Faculty Senate alternates,
341 must be available to attend scheduled Senate meetings.

342 **Article 3. Faculty Senate**

343 ***Section 3.01 Role of the Senate***

344 The Faculty Senate is the decision-making body for FGCU faculty governance. The
345 standing teams can make recommendations to the Senate, which has final authority. The
346 Senate may enact resolutions and issue statements on any matter affecting the mission of
347 the University, and speaks for the faculty on matters of concern.

348 It is the responsibility of the senators to communicate with and get feedback from the
349 constituents in their unit. The means of communication is determined by the senate
350 representatives in each unit.

351 Relevant work products of the Senate, which may include minutes, resolutions and
352 statements, should be provided to the Board of Trustees the Wednesday following their
353 approval by the Senate, with an indication of the manner and results of voting.

354 ***Section 3.02 Membership***

355 (a) Membership of the Faculty Senate is allocated as follows:

356 (i) Each Academic Unit is allocated a minimum of two Senators

357 (ii) Additional membership may be allocated as follows:

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358 1. On March 1, the total number of full-time faculty employed at
359 the university, and the number of eligible faculty in each academic
360 unit will be determined by the Senate Parliamentarian.

361 2. The number of additional Senators per unit is determined by the
362 formula:

363

364
$$\frac{\text{Number of full-time faculty in the unit}}{\text{Number of full-time faculty at the University}} \times 23$$

365

366

367 3. The result of the formula is rounded off to the nearest whole
368 number

369 (b) The Vice President of the Student Government Association (SGA) or his/her designee is
370 an *ex officio* member of the Senate.

371 (c) The term of membership for Senators is two years; Senators may be re-elected by their
372 units. In the case of contract expiration and non-renewal, the academic unit replaces its
373 Senate and team members as discussed in section 3.02(h).

374 (d) Approximately half of the Senate seats for each unit will be elected each year. To ensure
375 that a college is represented if one of their senators is absent from a Senate meeting, each
376 academic unit may elect one or more Alternate Senators. No unit may have more
377 alternates than regular Senators, unless it has only one regular Senator. An alternate
378 cannot represent more than one Senator from her/his unit at a meeting, and is expected to
379 indicate whom s/he is representing when s/he signs in for each Senate meeting. Alternate
380 Senators will have voting rights in place of the Senators they are representing.

381 (e) Senators may arrange for a proxy to represent them at a Senate meeting. A proxy shall be
382 defined as a present senator who is authorized to vote for an absent senator on a specific
383 issue. The absent Senator seeking a Proxy to represent his or her vote on eligible matters
384 shall be considered present by proxy. A proxy does not necessarily have to be in the same
385 college as the absent senator. To designate a fellow senator as a proxy, the absent
386 senator shall send an email to the senate secretary and the substituting member to confirm

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387 proxy status and identify proxy status to the leadership team. The proxy Senator shall
388 vote as the absent Senator directs him or her to vote. A proxy cannot represent more
389 than one other Senator at a meeting and is expected to indicate whom s/he is representing
390 when s/he signs in for each Senate meeting.

391 Senators who are not physically present during three or more Senate meetings in any one
392 semester, regardless of whether they have appointed an Alternate or a proxy, is
393 considered to have resigned. In the event of a leave of absence, including Family
394 and Medical Leave, Parental Leave, Professional Development Leave, or
395 Sabbatical Leave, the Senator is not considered to have resigned, and their
396 academic unit may replace the Senator during their absence. It is the
397 responsibility of the faculty member (or their representative) to notify the Faculty
398 Senate Secretary regarding their leave of absence. It is up to the faculty member's
399 academic unit to determine the means of replacement. Upon their return from
400 leave, the Senator may return to Senate to fulfill their term.

401 (f) In the event of the resignation of a Senator or Team member from his/her seat, the faculty
402 of the respective academic unit will name a replacement Senator or team member to fill
403 the seat until the next regular election for that seat. The faculty of the respective
404 academic unit decides the method for replacement.

405 (g) Regular elections for Senate seats and Senate Standing Teams will be held in the spring
406 (no later than the end of April) of each year. New Senators and team members start their
407 term the first day of the contract the following fall semester.

408 ***Section 3.03 Officers of the Senate***

409 Each spring, the Senate elects a President, a Vice President, a Secretary, Communications
410 Officer, and a Parliamentarian (the Senate Executive Team) for one-year terms which
411 begin the following fall semester. The President-elect will share duties with the outgoing
412 President over the summer to facilitate the transition process. If any officer is unable to
413 fulfill his or her term, a new election process must be scheduled for the next Senate
414 Meeting, following the procedures in 3.03(f).

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- 415 (a) The President facilitates Senate meetings, represents the Senate at the Advisory Council
416 of Faculty Senates, the Dean’s Council, and the FGCU Board of Trustees. The Senate
417 President is responsible for implementing the communication process between the
418 Faculty Senate, and the administration.
- 419 The Vice President facilitates Senate meetings in the absence of the President and assists
420 the President in drafting resolutions, leads selected Faculty Senate special initiatives,
421 serves as chair of the Senate Teams Council of Chairs (STCC), facilitates communication
422 between the Faculty Senate and the STCC, and as the designated liaison, is responsible
423 for communicating substantive results of Senate deliberations to the FGCU Board of
424 Trustees.. The Senate, by majority vote, may also direct the Vice-President to transmit
425 information items presented during a Senate meeting to the Board of Trustees.
- 426 (b) The Secretary takes minutes for Senate and STCC, and sends the minutes, agendas, and
427 other relevant documents to the Communications Officer for posting to the website. The
428 secretary also keeps track of the attendance of senators and collects the names of those
429 who are using proxies.
- 430 (c) The Communications Officer (CO) ensures communication between the Senate officers,
431 Senators, STCC, and university community. The CO maintains the Senate and STCC
432 webpages, ensures the publication of Senate agendas and minutes in a timely manner,
433 oversees any surveys or other feedback about Senate affairs, and acts as official Senate
434 archivist. The agenda and minutes should be posted on the Senate web page at least 72
435 hours prior to the next Senate meeting.
- 436 (d) The Parliamentarian ensures that meetings are conducted, and Senate actions are taken,
437 in accordance with the FGCU Faculty Governance Document. The Parliamentarian
438 coordinates elections, and compiles a list of current Senators, Alternates, and members
439 of senate teams and committees within two weeks after elections are complete.
- 440 (e) Elections for Senate offices will be held at the last meeting of the spring term. Current
441 senators will be eligible to vote. Candidates for all officers will be nominated at the
442 penultimate meeting of the spring term. Candidates will have the option of presenting a
443 statement of no more than two minutes to the Senate at the last meeting.

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444 Senators may make a statement of no more than one minute regarding a candidate.

445 At the final meeting, following the presentations by candidates, the election for President
446 will be held. Nominations for Vice President, Secretary, CO, and Parliamentarian will be
447 accepted at this meeting and elections held for offices in that order. The election process
448 will be managed by the Parliamentarian. In the event that the Parliamentarian is a
449 candidate for an office, the election process for that office will be managed by the
450 highest-ranking officer who is not a nominee for that office.

451 (f) Any academic advisor, instructor, assistant, associate or full professor or librarian who
452 has completed one academic year of service in the FGCU Faculty Senate before the start
453 of the term of office can be elected as the Faculty Senate secretary, CO or
454 parliamentarian. Any assistant, associate or full professor or librarians with at least three
455 years' experience as a faculty member at FGCU, including at least one year experience
456 in the FGCU faculty senate, at the beginning of the term in question, can be elected to
457 the office of faculty senate vice president or president.

458 (g) The Senate President and the immediate past Senate President shall represent the Senate
459 as full voting members of the Advisory Council of Faculty Senates (ACFS). The Senate
460 Vice President shall be an alternate member of the ACFS and in case of absence of one
461 of the full members shall assume the rights and privileges of that full member.

462 ***Section 3.04 Operation***

463 (a) Two - thirds (sixty-six percent) of the voting members of the Faculty Senate must be
464 present to constitute a quorum at any meeting.

465 (b) The Senate may deliberate, make recommendations to the university and take actions
466 when appropriate on any matter impacting the academic mission of the University.

467 (c) Proxy votes will be allowed by a formal written designation to the Senate secretary.
468 Proxy votes will count toward determination of a quorum for the purpose of conducting
469 the business item(s) named in the proxy.

470 (d) The Faculty Senate communicates directly with the University administration through the
471 elected Senate President.

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- 472 (e) Faculty Senate meetings are open to all. The non-Senate faculty members attending a
473 Senate meeting constitute a gallery. Faculty members in the gallery may participate in
474 Senate discussions, and may be recognized by Senate officers in the same manner as
475 Senators, but may not vote on Senate issues.
- 476 (f) Discussion of business items by the Faculty Senate is limited to fifteen (15) minutes.
477 Reports delivered during meetings of the Faculty Senate are also limited to 15 minutes.
478 The time allotted for such discussion and reporting may be extended by affirmation of
479 two-thirds of the voting Senators present.
- 480 (g) Proposed resolutions or items of business should be communicated to the Senate officers
481 as soon as possible. The officers will then evaluate the content and, if necessary, consult
482 with the Senate Team Council of Chairs or other relevant operational areas. When a
483 resolution or item of business is placed on a future meeting's agenda, it is listed as a New
484 Business item. The Senate body may not take action on the item while it is classified as
485 New Business, unless parliamentary procedure is suspended by vote. The item may then
486 recur to a second meeting, where it is classified as Old Business. Old Business items
487 require a Senate vote (most commonly affirmation of the business, negation of the
488 business, or returning the business to its originator for further revision).
- 489 (i) If a New Business item requires early action, Senators may vote to suspend
490 rules to vote on the issue at that same meeting.
- 491 (h) Summer Senate Term
- 492 (i) In the event that a formal response by the Faculty Senate is required during the
493 summer hiatus, the following rules of operation shall apply.
- 494 (ii) Definitions specific to this subsection:
- 495 (a) The *Summer Senate Term* shall be the period of time between the last
496 regularly scheduled Senate meeting of the spring term extending to the first
497 regularly scheduled Senate meeting of the subsequent fall term.
- 498 (b) The *Summer Senate* shall consist of those senators whose term of
499 incumbency shall extend throughout the Summer Senate Term per Section 3.02
500 hereof, and who declare on or before the last regularly scheduled session of the

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501 Faculty Senate prior to such Summer Senate Term that they agree to serve in the
502 capacity described below in Section 3.04(h) (iv), such declaration to be made in
503 writing to the Faculty Senate Secretary. All Faculty Senators who elect not to
504 participate in the Summer Senate by so doing affirm their agreement with and
505 support of the actions taken by the Summer Senate.

506 (c) The *Summer Senate Quorum* shall be one-half of the quorum required for
507 the last regularly scheduled Faculty Senate session prior to the Summer Senate
508 Term.

509 (d) The *Summer Senate Executive Team (SSET)* shall consist of the incumbent
510 Senate officers, who shall be considered to have made the declaration required in
511 Section 3.04(h) (ii) (b). In the event that an incumbent officer resigns from the
512 Senate without replacement, the SSET Team shall nevertheless be considered fully
513 constituted.

514 (iii) For the purposes of this Subsection, electronic communications shall be deemed
515 equivalent to written communications.

516 (iv) Summer Operation:

517 (a) Authority for all matters relating to the operation of the Summer Senate shall
518 be vested in the SSET.

519 (b) All official actions of the Summer Senate shall be binding upon the full
520 Faculty Senate.

521 (c) Any matter which is accepted by the SSET for consideration and/or action by
522 the Summer Senate may be resolved by the SSET without prior consultation of
523 the Summer Senate provided the SSET is unanimous in so doing.

524 (d) Any matter which is accepted by the SSET for consideration and/or action by
525 the Summer Senate and which cannot be resolved unanimously by the SSET, or
526 which the SSET wishes to refer to the Summer Senate, shall be put before the
527 Summer Senate in the manner prescribed by Subsection 3.04(h)(iv)(e).

528 (e) The Faculty Senate Secretary, or, if unavailable, the Faculty Senate

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529 President's designee, shall contact or attempt to contact all members of the
530 Summer Senate by FGCU e-mail for the purpose of communicating the matter to
531 be resolved, together with all relevant materials which may be electronically sent,
532 and establish a deadline for the response of the Summer Senate. All such
533 communication by the Secretary or designee shall be uniform to the members of
534 the Summer Senate. The format for response shall be determined by the SSET
535 and shall permit only a vote of preference among options to resolve the matter(s)
536 at hand, and shall not be deemed to require debate or discussion.

537 (f) Each member of the Summer Senate shall provide the SSET on or before
538 the established deadline a vote regarding the matter(s) at hand. Any vote received
539 after the deadline is subject to disqualification.

540 (g) Any voting for which the number of votes equals or exceeds the number
541 required for a Summer Senate Quorum shall be deemed binding on the Faculty
542 Senate as a whole, and carry the authority of the Faculty Senate.

543 (h) Any voting for which the number of votes is less than the number
544 required for a Summer Senate Quorum shall cause the relevant matter to be
545 referred back to the SSET for resolution in its sole discretion.

546 (i) The results of all voting and subsequent actions taken by the SSET shall
547 be communicated to the entire Faculty Senate in a timely manner by the SSET,
548 such communication deemed to have been completed upon sending an e-mail
549 with any relevant supporting information.

550 **Article 4. Standing Teams**

551 **Section 4.01 General Principles**

- 552 (a) Membership in standing teams allows representation from all academic units.
- 553 (b) All faculty standing teams initiate proposals and actions concerning their areas of
554 responsibility and institutional effectiveness whenever they feel that such proposals and
555 actions are needed and appropriate. No standing team may assume responsibilities

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- 556 beyond those designated in the Faculty Governance Document without prior approval
557 from the Faculty Senate.
- 558 (c) The faculty of the academic units elects members to all standing teams except the Senate
559 Teams Council of Chairs (STCC). It is the option of any academic unit to forgo
560 participation on any faculty team.
- 561 (d) Representatives to standing teams are elected at the same time as Senators.
- 562 (e) Teams may establish task forces and *ad hoc* teams, which will be chaired by a member of
563 the standing team. Establishment of any sub-teams with duties expected to require more
564 than one semester to complete requires approval of the Senate.
- 565 (f) The VPAA or a designee thereof has the opportunity to serve in an *ex officio* capacity to
566 each faculty standing team.
- 567 (g) Each standing team elects a chair to lead the work of the team by calling team meetings,
568 developing agendas, and assisting the team's work in other appropriate areas. Chairs are
569 expected to attend Senate meetings where items originating from their teams are on the
570 agenda; or, if that is not possible, to arrange for some other team member to attend as a
571 representative of the team. The chair must hold at least one face-to-face meeting with a
572 quorum of the team each semester. The chair serves as a member of the STCC. No
573 faculty member may concurrently serve as the chair of more than one standing team.
- 574 (h) The terms of service for standing team members shall be three (3) years, with elections
575 for seats to be held according to the schedule published and approved by the Institutional
576 Affairs Team and Senate Executive Team.
- 577 (i) If the need arises for replacement of a standing team member, the chair of that team
578 notifies the Senate parliamentarian, who is responsible for contacting the faculty
579 leadership of the respective unit for possible replacement of that team member until the
580 end of the original term.
- 581

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582 **Section 4.02 Composition, Responsibilities and Duties of Senate Team Council of Chairs**

583 **(a) Composition**

584 The Senate Team Council of Chairs (STCC) consists of the following members of the
585 Faculty Senate: the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, CO, and the current
586 chairs of the other standing teams and the President of the UFF chapter. The immediate
587 Past President of the Senate shall be an *ex officio* member.

588 The Vice President of the Senate acts as the chair of the STCC and will set the agenda for
589 and facilitate STCC meetings.

590 **(b) Responsibilities and Duties**

591 The STCC will coordinate operations between the standing teams and Senate. They will
592 suggest Senate agenda items that have been generated from standing team reports, and assign
593 issues brought from Senate to the appropriate standing team.

594

595 **Section 4.03 Composition, Responsibilities, and Duties of Faculty Standing Teams**

596 **(a) Faculty Affairs Team**

597 **(i) Composition**

598 The Faculty Affairs Team consists of two (2) faculty members representing each
599 academic unit, with the exception of Library Services, which may choose to have only
600 one. At least one member from each unit must be at the rank of Associate Professor or
601 higher, with the exception of Library Services. Members must have at least four years
602 full-time experience in higher education to be eligible for service on the Faculty Affairs
603 Team.

604 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

605 The Faculty Affairs Team is a standing committee of the collegial faculty governance
606 system, reporting to the Faculty Senate. It provides a direct faculty voice regarding all
607 personnel-related matters pertaining to faculty that are not subject to collective
608 bargaining, as well as the traditional professional expectations and responsibilities of
609 faculty. The team, at the direction of the Senate leadership, reviews and recommends

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610 policies, consistent with the Collective Bargaining Agreement, concerning matters
611 relating to:

- 612 (a) general faculty status of university employees, in situations where faculty or
613 nonfaculty status is not delineated by the Collective Bargaining Agreement;
- 614 (b) annual review, promotion, and reappointment issues across academic units;
- 615 (c) assessment of faculty teaching, research, and service;
- 616 (d) merit criteria;
- 617 (e) the availability and allocation of summer support opportunities;
- 618 (f) professional development and resource support;
- 619 (g) the ownership and use of intellectual property;
- 620 (h) academic freedom and integrity issues;
- 621 (i) criteria for honorary faculty status, including Emeritus status; and
- 622 (j) other issues of traditional academic concern related to faculty expectations and
623 responsibilities.

624 The Faculty Affairs Team does not negotiate or otherwise determine terms and
625 conditions of employment. Any recommendations related to terms and conditions of
626 employment will be forwarded to the UFF chapter leadership for consideration.

627

628 **(b) Student Affairs Team**

629 **(i) Composition**

630 The Student Affairs Team consists of one faculty member representing each academic
631 unit, one voting student member representing the SGA, and one ex officio member
632 appointed by the Vice President of Student Affairs. Ad hoc members will participate as
633 appropriate.

634 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

635 The Student Affairs Team collaborates with Student Affairs on behalf of the faculty to
636 develop policies affecting the quality of educational programs. The team will review and

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637 recommend policies concerning matters relating to student affairs. These include, but are
638 not limited to, (a) admission and readmission of students to the University, suspension of
639 students, (b) withdrawal from courses and from the university, (c) academic status, (d)
640 award of credit, (e) award of academic honors, (f) award of Student of the Year (SOTY),
641 (g) student grievances, (h) educational equity, rights and responsibilities (including
642 student code of conduct), and (i) review policies relating to academic integrity and
643 student conduct. The team will work with Student Affairs to assure appropriate faculty
644 representation on Student Services Committees.

645

646 (c) Undergraduate Curriculum Team

647 (i) Composition

648 The Undergraduate Curriculum Team (GCT) consists of one faculty member representing
649 each academic unit, a representative(s) from the Office of Academic and Curriculum
650 Support (ex officio) and the General Education Director (ex officio).

651

652 (ii) Responsibilities and Duties

653 The members of the UCT serve as a unified university entity to review and coordinate
654 among the academic programs, schools, and colleges so as to (a) preserve and maintain
655 the integrity of curriculum and course offerings, (b) review and resolve curricular issues,
656 (c) assure public accountability by the university, (d) report to the Faculty Senate, and (e)
657 collaborate with the General Education Council, Graduate Affairs Team, and Graduate
658 Curriculum Team as appropriate. When the college representative to the Undergraduate
659 Curriculum Team is not qualified or chooses not to present changes to the curriculum
660 from other disciplines in the college they represent, the team may invite representatives
661 from that discipline to present the changes and answer questions from the curriculum
662 team.

663 The Undergraduate Curriculum Team is responsible for developing policies and
664 procedures associated with the creation, maintenance and revision of undergraduate

15

Adopted May 3, 1998

*Last updated 04/11/08, 03-25-2002 / 11-01- 2002 / 11-15- 2002 / 04-18-2003 / 10-31- 2003 / 03-05-2004 / 04-16-2004 /
GAT 2-18-2005 / PRT 4-15-2005/ 2-29-2008 / 3-14-2008/ 4-11-2008/3-27-09/5-3-2010/8-11-2011 / GAT/SPBAC 12-
0111/1-27-12/VP;GCT;UCT;GAT 4-13-12/Faculty Senate 4-12-2013/FacultySenate4/2014/ PRT; IAT; GRT 3-27-
15/Faculty*

Senate3/27/15; Faculty Senate 10/16/15; 4/13/18; 10/11/19

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665 curriculum, academic policies and standards, and accreditation issues. The
666 Undergraduate Curriculum Team will review proposed changes in, additions to, and
667 deletions from the undergraduate curriculum, course descriptions and catalog
668 information, and will forward recommendations to the Office of Academic Affairs.

669

670 **(d) Graduate Affairs Team**

671 **(i) Composition**

672 The Graduate Affairs Team (GAT) consists of one faculty member with graduate faculty
673 Member or Associate Member status representing each College; one faculty member
674 representing Library Services who is the liaison to a graduate program; one representative
675 from the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and one representative from the Office
676 of Academic and Curriculum Support as ex-officio members; one graduate student
677 representative and one graduate student alternate (both of whom may attend any meeting)
678 appointed by the Student Government President (1-year term) to serve as ex-officio
679 members.

680 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

681 The Graduate Affairs Team will review and recommend action to the Faculty Senate on
682 all matters pertaining to university-level policies concerning graduate academic
683 programs. These include, but are not limited to, (a) minimum requirements for graduate
684 faculty eligibility, (b) admission to and completion of graduate programs, (c) final
685 submissions of theses and dissertations, (d) the graduate grading system, (e) graduate
686 research committees, (f) the distribution of graduate student assistantships and tuition
687 waivers, and (g) the review of proposed changes to program-level policies to ensure
688 compliance with university-level graduate policies. The GAT will review petitions from
689 faculty members and graduate students appealing decisions based on university graduate
690 academic policies and procedures as well as from applicants appealing for
691 reconsideration of admission, and will forward recommendations to the Director of
692 Graduate Studies. The GAT is not responsible for considering student appeals covered
693 by other university or college committees including, but not limited to, grade appeals,

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694 appeals for reinstatement, appeals for residency reclassification, tuition and fee appeals,
695 and withdrawal policy appeals.

696

697 (e) Graduate Curriculum Team

698 (i) Composition

699 The Graduate Curriculum Team (GCT) shall consist of one faculty member with graduate
700 faculty Member or Associate Member status representing each College; and one faculty
701 member representing Library Services who is the liaison to a graduate program. Ex-officio
702 members include the Director of Graduate Studies, one representative from the Office of
703 Academic and Curriculum Support, and one graduate student representative (1-year term)
704 appointed by the Student Government President. Other ex-officio members (1-year term) may
705 be appointed by the Team's chair as appropriate to the Team's task.

706 (ii) Responsibilities and Duties

707 The members of the GCT serve as a unified university entity to review and coordinate
708 among the academic programs, schools and colleges so as to (a) preserve and maintain the
709 integrity of curriculum and course offerings, (b) review and resolve curricular issues, (c)
710 assure public accountability by the university, (d) report to the Faculty Senate and (e)
711 collaborate with the GAT and UCT as appropriate. The GCT may invite representatives
712 from programs proposing curriculum changes to present the proposed changes and answer
713 questions from the GCT. The GCT is responsible for developing policies and procedures
714 associated with the creation, maintenance and revision of graduate curriculum. The
715 Graduate Curriculum Team will review proposed changes in, additions to, and deletions
716 from the graduate curriculum, course descriptions, and catalog information and will forward
717 recommendations to the Office of Academic Affairs.

718

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719 **(f) Institutional Affairs Team**

720 **(i) Composition**

721 The Institutional Affairs Team consists of one faculty member representing each
722 academic unit and one student appointed by the SGA, one representative of the Staff
723 Advisory Council (SAC), and up to five (5) ex officio members to be appointed by the
724 President of FGCU (or designee).

725 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

726 The Institutional Affairs Team is a standing committee of the collegial faculty
727 governance system, reporting to the Faculty Senate. It functions as a faculty advisory
728 group and coordinates with University administration, University governance structures,
729 other nonacademic units as well as the community on institutional policy matters. The
730 team will investigate, review and make policy recommendations concerning all matters
731 relating to, but not limited to, campus planning; environmental concerns, institutional
732 effectiveness; academic assessment; support of faculty research, scholarship, and service;
733 academic calendar; and boundary-spanning activities and gifts.

734

735 **(g) Library Team**

736 **(i) Composition**

737 The Library Team consists of one member representing each academic unit and the Dean
738 of Library Services serving as an *ex officio* member.

739 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

740 The University Library Committee functions as an advisory group to the Dean of Library
741 Services. The team will review and make recommendations on matters relating to the
742 Library, such as, but not limited to, library instruction, service policies, collection
743 development, and library technology development.

744

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745 **(h) Grants and Research Team**

746 **(i) Composition**

747 The Grants and Research Team consists of one faculty member representing each
748 academic unit and a representative from the Office of Research and Graduate Studies as a
749 non-voting, ex officio member and as the VPAA designee. The Team chair is elected by
750 the Grant and Research Team and must have served at least two years on the Grants and
751 Research Team.

752 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

753 The Grants and Research Team is a standing committee of the collegial faculty
754 governance system, reporting to the Faculty Senate. It provides a direct faculty voice
755 regarding all matters pertaining to the Office of Research and Graduate Studies. The
756 team, at the direction of the Senate leadership, reviews and recommends policies,
757 concerning matters relating to research and sponsored programs at the University. The
758 Grants and Research Team has specific responsibility for:

- 759 (a) Reviewing proposals for Center and Institute establishment and making
760 recommendations;
- 761 (b) Reviewing annual reports for Centers and Institutes and making recommendations
762 regarding their performance and sustainability;
- 763 (c) Reviewing Internal Grant proposals and making recommendations for funding; (d)
764 Reviewing Multidisciplinary Research Initiative (MDRI) proposals and making
765 recommendations for funding;
- 766 (e) Reviewing and selecting from multiple grant proposals where grantor imposes
767 institutional submission limits;
- 768 (f) Reviewing guidelines and providing support to university-wide research activities,
769 such as FGCU's Research Day;
- 770 (g) Advising the Office of Research and Graduate Studies on all policies, procedures,
771 and matters related to research and sponsored programs, including items such as

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772 appropriation of return overhead funds and recommendations regarding support
773 services to stimulate successful generation of sponsored research.

774

775 **(i) Technology Team**

776 **(i) Composition**

777 The Technology Team consists of one faculty member representing each academic unit
778 and an *ex officio* member from academic computing.

779 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

780 The Technology Team functions as an advisory group to academic computing and other
781 University computing bodies. The team will review and recommend policies concerning
782 all matters relating to University computing, including distance learning needs and
783 requirements.

784

785 **(j) General Education Council**

786 **(i) Composition**

787 The General Education Council (GEC) consists of three faculty members from the
788 College of Arts and Sciences; one faculty member from each of the other academic units;
789 Director of General Education (*ex officio*); a representative of the Academic Advising
790 Council (non-voting); and a Student Government representative. Faculty must teach at
791 least one undergraduate course per year or be a Librarian liaison to an undergraduate
792 program, to be eligible to serve on the Council.

793

794 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

795 Members of the GEC serve as a unified university entity to (a) preserve and maintain
796 academic integrity of general education curriculum and course offerings, (b) review and

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797 resolve curricular issues, (c) assure public accountability by the University, (d) report to
798 the Faculty Senate, and (e) collaborate with the UCT when appropriate.

799 The Council will have primary responsibility for all curricular aspects of the General
800 Education Program and is the unit-level review body for curricular proposals affecting
801 general education and related university requirements.

802 The Council will collaborate with the Director of General Education on policy matters
803 related to administration of the program.

804 When the college representative to the General Education Council is not qualified or
805 chooses not to present changes to the curriculum from other disciplines in the college
806 they represent, the team may invite representatives from that discipline to present the
807 changes and answer questions from the General Education Council team.

808

809 **(k) Program Review Team**

810 **(i) Composition**

811 The composition of the Program Review Team shall be as follows: Each academic unit
812 will be represented by two elected faculty members, with the following two exceptions:
813 The College of Arts and Sciences will have four elected members. Library Services may
814 choose to have either one member, or to serve on an as-needed basis. Elected members
815 from academic units will serve staggered 3-year terms. These members will be
816 nominated and elected by the in-unit faculty members of their respective units. *Ex*
817 *officio* members: A representative from Academic Affairs.

818

819 **(ii) Responsibilities and Duties**

820 a. Provide recommendations to Faculty Senate for the development, periodic
821 review, and revision of standards, policies, and procedures for university-level
822 management of program review, creation and elimination of all degree and

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- 823 certificate programs, and in compliance with the Board of Governors’
824 Regulation 8.015.
- 825 b. Participate in the three-year process of program review of all degree and
826 certificate programs, inform and make recommendations to Faculty Senate
827 regarding the outcomes of that process; specifically:
- 828 i. Review guidelines for the selection of, and charges to external reviewers
829 for each program under review.
 - 830 ii. Review self-studies and make recommendations on their suitability for
831 program review.
 - 832 iii. Review the reports of the external reviewers and make recommendations
833 on the adequacy of the report for program review.
 - 834 iv. Review the response to the report from the program and the college
835 leadership.
 - 836 v. Provide comments/recommendations in addition to those of the external
837 reviewer as appropriate.
 - 838 vi. Track program review response meetings, their results, and one-year
839 follow-up actions.
- 840 Step 1: PRT reviews CVs of potential external reviewers identified by
841 program and makes recommendation.
- 842 Step 2: Program writes self-study.
- 843 Step 3: External reviewer reviews program’s self-study and submits
844 report of findings.
- 845 Step 4: Program responds to the external review report.
- 846 Step 5: PRT comments on program’s self-study, external review report,
847 and program’s response.
- 848 Step 6: Provost meets with program administrators.
- 849 Step 7: Program writes one-year follow-up report.

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850 Step 8: PRT comments on follow-up report to Provost's
851 recommendations.

852 Step 9: Provost meets with program administrators.

853 c. Create additional working groups as deemed appropriate or necessary by the
854 PRT members. The PRT chair can extend invitations for membership on
855 working groups to FGCU faculty members, administrators, and/or staff
856 members otherwise unaffiliated with the PRT.

857 d. In consultation with the Office of Planning and Institutional Performance
858 (PIP), provide recommendations to Faculty Senate on future needs and
859 directions in program review.

860 e. Provide information to Faculty Senate on how well FGCU program review
861 procedures and products conform to current and future Florida directives.

862

863 (I) University Committee Appointments Team

864 (i) Composition

865 The Appointments Team shall consist of one faculty member representing each academic
866 unit.

867

868 (ii) Responsibilities

869 The Appointments Team functions as the group responsible for generating nominees to fill
870 faculty slots on all university-wide committees with faculty representation. For each such
871 committee, the Appointments Team shall be responsible for:

872 • Soliciting names of qualified faculty candidates, ensuring that all qualified faculty
873 have equitable opportunity to volunteer for service;

874 • Disseminating information regarding university-wide committees with open faculty
875 positions on request of the authority responsible for each respective committee;

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- 876 • Selecting nominees from among the volunteers in the number requested for the
877 committee slot(s). In the event the nominees for a particular committee are to be
878 chosen by election, the team is responsible for compiling results of the election;
- 879 • Communicating the list of nominees to the appropriate authority responsible for the
880 respective committee.

881

882 **Article 5. Amendments**

883 *Section 5.01 Initiation of Amendments*

884 Amendments to the Faculty Governance Document may be proposed by submitting in
885 writing the proposed change to the STCC. The proposed amendment must be endorsed by
886 at least three sponsors in the Senate. The STCC promulgates the proposal to the full
887 Senate and shall bring the proposed change to the Senate floor by the second meeting
888 after the proposal has been received.

889 *Section 5.02 Approval of Amendments*

- 890 (a) Amendments to the Faculty Governance Document may not be voted on in the same
891 Senate meeting in which they are introduced.
- 892 (b) Proposed amendments require approval by 60% of the full membership of the Senate in
893 order to pass.
- 894 (c) Unless otherwise stated in the proposal, amendments will take effect at the beginning of
895 the fall or spring semester subsequent to approval.