

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

Current Statutory Language	Proposed Statutory Language	Rationale
Legislative authority over University-wide educational policy shall be vested in the University Senate, subject only to the Board of Trustees. The University Senate shall be primarily responsible for the formulation of educational policy of the University relating to: curriculum matters affecting more than one school; the admission, retention and graduation of students; student activities and student discipline.	6.01 The University Senate The University Senate embraces and implements a vision of shared governance and sets its agenda based upon its role as a deliberative, reflective and inquisitive body. The University Senate consists of two general parts: a representative body of Senators comprised of faculty members, administrators, and students, who meet twice each semester, and a Standing Committee system. - As a deliberative body, the University Senate discusses University-wide policies on education or academic student activity and discipline and may provide advice or recommend changes to such policies subject only to the President of the University or the Board of Trustees as described in Section 6.20 (a). - As a reflective body, the University Senate provides guidance on matters of general University interest and has the right to present this guidance for consideration to the University President as described in Section 6.20 (b) and, - As an inquisitive body, the University Senate may request presentations at Senate meetings from administrative or faculty bodies on matters of general University interest for the purpose of gathering and relaying information to the University community pursuant to the procedure in Section 6.20 (c).	- Establishes the authority of a University Senate with three distinct functions. - Establishes broadly, the academic categories where the Senate can provide input and/or effectuate changes. - Provides a channel of communication where Senate viewpoints on University-wide concerns can reach upper administration. - Allows the Senate to control its own agenda with respect to the flow of information.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

Membership The <i>ex officio</i> members shall be the President of the University and fifteen (15) administrators designated by the President. The President of the University, or his designee, shall preside at meetings of the University Senate. The elected members shall be made up of delegates from schools or colleges, delegates from the professional library staff and delegates from the student body. The number and composition of delegates shall be: - There shall be fifteen (15) delegates from SJC, with not more than one delegate from any department. A majority of the delegates shall be tenured faculty members. - There shall be seven (7) delegates from TCB, with at least one delegate from each department. A majority of the delegates shall be tenured faculty members. - There shall be three (3) delegates from The TSOE, with at least one delegate from each division. At least two of the delegates shall be tenured faculty members. - There shall be eight (8) delegates from CCPS with at least one delegate from each division. A majority of the delegates shall be tenured faculty members. - There shall be two (2) delegates from the School of Law, at least one of whom shall be a tenured faculty member. - There shall be three (3) delegates from the CPHS, with at least one delegate from each department. At least two of the delegates shall be tenured faculty members. - There shall be two (2) delegates from the professional library staff, one each from the Queens and Staten Island Campuses. At least one of the delegates shall be a tenured professional librarian.	6.03 Membership The University Senate shall consist of both <i>ex-officio</i> and elected members. <i>Ex-officio</i> members shall have the same rights, privileges and responsibilities as elected members, including voting rights, unless otherwise mentioned. - The <i>ex-officio</i> members shall be the President or his/her designee, who shall be the Presiding Officer; the Provost & SVPAA; the Deans of each of the Schools, Colleges and the University Libraries (7); and thirty-three (33) other administrators. The administrators will be: one (1) Associate Dean from each School or College (excluding Law and University Libraries) chosen by the Dean of that School or College (total of 5); the Executive Vice President for Mission; the Vice President for Student Affairs; the Vice Provost for Student Success; the Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer; the University Registrar; the Chief Enrollment Officer; the Associate Vice President for Human Resources; and twenty-one (21) other administrators designated by the President. The Presiding Officer of the University Senate shall not vote except to break a tie. - The elected faculty members of the University Senate shall be made up of delegates from the Schools, Colleges, and the University Libraries as follows: - Each School or College with academic programs (excluding the School of Law and School of Education) shall have ten (10) delegates who may be tenured or untenured. - There shall be six (6) faculty delegates from the School of Education. These delegates may be tenured or tenure-track.	Solidifies the notion of shared governance over University Senate matters. The previous composition of the body was 15 administrators and 41 faculty members. The new iteration has a composition of 41 administrators and 50 faculty members. - Includes specific <i>ex-officio</i> members who must be part of a University Senate due to their roles in the university. - Faculty representation is capped at 50 and representation reflects differences in faculty headcount, student loads and accreditation requirements. - Staten Island student numbers were removed.
---	--	--

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

h. There shall be eight (8) delegates from the student body elected by the students on the following basis: four (4) delegates from the Queens undergraduate student body, two (2) delegates from the Staten Island undergraduate student body and two (2) delegates from the graduate or graduate professional divisions of the student body.	iii. There shall be two (2) faculty delegates from the School of Law. These delegates may be tenured or tenure-track. iv. There shall be two (2) faculty delegates from the University Libraries. These delegates may be tenured or tenure-track. v. The majority of delegates from each school or college shall be tenured faculty members. c. There shall be six (6) elected delegates from the student body with four (4) delegates from the undergraduate student body and two (2) delegates from the graduate or graduate professional student body.	
Election of Faculty Members to the University Senate (a) Regular elections of School, College and University Libraries Senators shall be conducted by the members of the Eligible Faculty as defined in Article 3 of the University Statutes. In the School of Law, the Eligible Faculty shall elect delegates to the University Senate. (b) Only members of the Eligible Faculty may serve as Senators	6.04 Election of Faculty Members to the University Senate a. Regular elections of School, College and University Libraries Senators shall be conducted by the members of the Eligible Faculty as defined in Article 3 of the University Statutes. In the School of Law, the Eligible Faculty shall elect delegates to the University Senate. b. Only members of the Eligible Faculty may serve as Faculty Senators. c. In Schools and Colleges currently exceeding the allotted number of Senators in 6.03 (b) during the 2026-2027 academic year, all Senators shall be entitled to complete the remainder of their term, even if it results in a School or College exceeding the limit of ten (10) delegates per School or College.	a. No changes b. No changes c. Provision allows all those who had been elected previously to complete their term.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

University Senate Term of Office a. Tenured faculty delegates shall be elected for three-year terms. b. Non-tenured faculty delegates shall be elected for a one-year term. c. The term of office for student delegates shall be established by representatives of the full-time student body, in consultation with, and with the approval of, the University Senate. d. Terms are staggered so that approximately one-third of the elected delegates expire annually.	6.06 University Senate Term of Office a. All full-time tenure-track and tenured faculty delegates shall be elected for three-year terms. b. The term of office for student delegates shall be established by representatives of the full-time student body, in consultation with, and with the approval of, the University Senate. c. Terms are staggered so that approximately one-third of the elected delegates expire annually.	All faculty now have a three-year term.
N/A	6.09 The Parliamentarian There shall be a Parliamentarian of the University Senate who shall be nominated and elected at its first regular meeting. The Parliamentarian is not required to be a member of the Senate, but if s/he is not a member, s/he has no voting rights. The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be set out in the bylaws of the University Senate.	New Provision
N/A	6.10 Meetings of the University Senate Attendance at University Senate meetings is limited to Senate members and such other persons who may be invited or authorized by the Presiding Officer. All regular and special meetings of the University Senate will be broadcast by video or other electronic means for viewing by the general University population. Members or groups within the University community have the opportunity to comment through the procedure described in Section 6.19 (a). The usual order of business shall be: i. Prayer	New Provision Given the increased number of Senate members, only Senators or invited guests will be permitted to physically attend meetings, but for transparency purposes, meetings will be broadcast for anyone in the University community to view.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	ii. Consideration of the Minutes iii. Reports of the Committees iv. Unfinished Business v. New Business vi. Adjournment Once each semester, the Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer will provide a Budget Report.	This agenda mimics the agenda for the Board of Trustees that is set out in the current University Statutes. With the removal of the Budget Committee, this required agenda item provides transparency.
N/A	6.11 The Executive Committee of the University Senate a. There shall be an Executive Committee of the University Senate. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Presiding Officer of the Senate, who shall serve as Chair; the Chairs of the Standing Committees of the Senate; the Secretary of the Senate; and three (3) Senators elected at large by the Senate. The Presiding Officer, in his/her capacity as Chairperson of the Executive Committee shall have all rights, privileges and responsibilities, including voting rights. If the President of the University has delegated his role as Presiding Officer, s/he may attend meetings of the Executive Committee as an <i>ex-officio</i>, non-voting participant. b. The Executive Committee shall serve as the coordinating body of the University Senate between regular meetings and shall be responsible for advancing the work of the Senate in accordance with these Statutes and the Senate bylaws. c. The Executive Committee shall: i. Establish and coordinate the agenda for meetings of the University Senate; ii. Facilitate and monitor the work of the Standing Committees of the Senate; iii. Receive matters or other business submitted to the Senate;	New Provision With the restructuring of the Senate and Committees, a mechanism is needed to ensure that meetings are effective and on topic. There had been lack of communication between the Senate and the larger community. This Committee will manage process and help fill that gap. It will be a task of this committee to ensure that the topics introduced are routed to the proper committee and that the and that the correct standard of review is applied.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	iv. Issue communications on behalf of the University Senate concerning University Senate business and activities; and v. Perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Senate or prescribed in the Senate bylaws. d. Upon receipt of a matter submitted to the Senate pursuant to Section 6.19(a), the Executive Committee shall determine whether the matter falls within the jurisdiction of the Senate. Matters that fall within the jurisdiction of the University Senate will be brought to the Senate floor for debate. If approved to move forward, they will be returned to the Executive Committee which shall, by majority vote, refer the matter to the appropriate Standing Committee or Committees. In making such referrals, the Executive Committee shall specify whether the matter is to be considered in the Senate's deliberative capacity pursuant to Section 6.01(a), reflective capacity pursuant to Section 6.01(b), or inquisitive capacity pursuant to Section 6.01(c). e. The Executive Committee shall not exercise authority reserved to the full Senate, including the adoption of policy recommendations, guidance documents, or amendments to the Senate bylaws.	
a. The standing committees of the University Senate shall be: i. Committee on Budget ii. Committee on Bylaws iii. Committee on Educational Programs & Developments iv. Committee on Faculty Affairs v. Committee on Student Affairs	6.12 Standing Committees of the University Senate a. The Standing Committees of the University Senate shall be: i. Committee on Bylaws ii. Committee on Education and Academic Development iii. Committee on Faculty Affairs and Grievances iv. Committee on the Faculty Handbook	Committees have changed: • The Budget Committee is removed. • A grievance resolution function was added to the Faculty Affairs Committee • Two new committees were added, the Committee on the Faculty Handbook and the

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

b. Membership on standing committees shall be for two-year terms. c. The composition and duties of each standing committee shall be specified in the bylaws of the University Senate	v. Committee on Student Affairs vi. Committee on the University Statutes b. Membership on the Standing Committees shall be for two academic year terms. c. The membership composition and duties of the Standing Committees remain as described in Sections 6.13–6.18.	Committee on the University Statutes All committee charges are now established in the University Statutes (previously they were in the Senate bylaws).
Committee on Budget (previously in the bylaws) This committee shall consist of nine members: seven elected members of the University Senate, two <i>ex officio</i> members of the University Senate, one of whom will be the Treasurer or the Vice President for Business Affairs. The Committee on Budget serves to assist the Provost and the Vice President for Finance in the preparation and review of the University’s academic budget and acts as a liaison to schools and departments on budgetary matters. The Committee on Budget will provide guidance to assist the Provost develop the academic budget in a manner that supports the strategic academic plan. Specific duties of the Committee on Budget include: a. Participate in the formulation of the University’s academic budget by reviewing the strategic academic plan, reviewing the financial resources, and making recommendations to the Provost. b. Receive from the Provost the approved academic budget and report to the full Senate on the budget and its implications on the academic plan. c. Assist schools and departments review and/or develop budgets consistent with the academic plan, upon request.	Removed in its entirety.	This committee had purported to give budgetary oversight and authority to the Senate. It set unachievable expectations. Instead, the CFO will be a permanent ex-officio member of the University Senate and a budget presentation will be provided once per semester to increase transparency.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

d. Serve as a liaison between the full Senate and the Provost and Vice President for Finance on matters relating to budgets		
Committee on Bylaws (previously in the bylaws) This committee shall consist of three members: two elected members of the University Senate and one <i>ex officio</i> member who shall be the Provost. The Committee shall prepare, review, and recommend revisions to the Senate bylaws.	6.13 Committee on Bylaws This Committee shall consist of seven (7) Senators: one (1) ex-officio member who shall be the Provost and SVPAA or his/her designee who shall also be an <i>ex-officio</i> member of the University Senate, two other (2) <i>ex-officio</i> members and four (4) elected faculty Senators. Each with the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. This Committee shall prepare, review and revise the bylaws of the University Senate for its approval as needed.	The number of Senators increased from 3 to 7 in recognition of the increased workload expected. No other substantive changes were made.
Committee on Educational Programs and Developments (previously in the bylaws) This committee shall consist of eighteen members: one <i>ex officio</i> member who shall be the Provost, five student Senators, and twelve faculty members. This committee shall be empowered to propose policy recommendations and to conduct a continuing review of the following as they affect more than one school or college: Curricular matters, the University's program for student scholarships and other grants-in-aid, financial assistance for faculty publication and professional travel, the educational use of the physical facilities of the University, and questions and matters pertaining to academic freedom. None of the foregoing provisions is intended to limit the Committee's authority to investigate, review and report on any University-wide academic matter when so directed by the Senate. This Committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the University Senate.	6.14 Committee on Education and Academic Development This Committee on Education and Academic Development shall consist of thirteen (13) members, three (3) ex-officio members of the Senate and ten (10) elected faculty Senators, with at least one (1) but no more than two (2) faculty members, from each School, College or the University Libraries. Each shall have the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. This Committee shall propose policy recommendations as described below and may conduct a continuing review of such policy if it affects more than one School or College, including the Libraries, and is not otherwise governed by the University Core Curriculum Council (UCCC) or the Graduate Council (GC). Examples of such are: technological developments relating to research and pedagogy and student success and outcomes (i.e. the University grading system, high impact practices, student engagement efforts, career readiness). This	• The Committee name, number of Senators and charge have changed. • Clarifies the type of policy that may be reviewed in the Senate. • Clarifies the Senate's role with respect to the UCCC and the GC which had been a prior point of confusion.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	committee also may offer guidance in its reflective capacity for the consideration of the UCCC or the GC.	
Committee on Faculty Affairs (language was previously in the bylaws). This Committee shall consist of seven full-time faculty members. This Committee shall be empowered to propose policy recommendations and to conduct a continuing review of the following as they affect more than one school or college: the definition of full-time teaching including teaching load during the academic year and summer sessions; the responsibilities of chairpersons and departmental representatives, all leaves of absence including research leaves and sick leaves, conflict of interest, special programs involving teaching, fellowships, research grants, writings and publications. None of the foregoing provisions is intended to limit the Committee's authority to investigate, review and report on any University-wide faculty matter when so directed by the Senate. This Committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the University Senate.	6.15 Committee on Faculty Affairs and Grievances The Faculty Affairs and Grievances Committee shall consist of seven (7) elected faculty Senators at the rank of Associate or Full Professor. All members shall have equal rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. The Committee may recommend policies affecting faculty across more than one School, College, or the University Libraries when such matters are not otherwise addressed in the Faculty Handbook. It may also review faculty complaints or concerns when there is reasonable cause to believe that a University decision or action by a Dean, Department Chair, or Director violates academic policy. The Committee shall not review matters related to course assignments, reappointment, promotion, or tenure, nor serve as an additional step in disputes covered by another formal University process. Complaints or concerns must first be addressed informally through the ordinary chain of command before being brought to the Committee. Procedures for submitting a complaint or concern shall be established in the University Senate bylaws. In addressing complaints or concerns, the Committee shall serve solely in an advisory capacity and may make recommendations to the appropriate University body. No members of this committee may be subject to legal liability for service on this Committee.	The committee charge has been expanded to allow faculty members to have a faculty body where they can air "grievances" in the form of complaints or concerns to other faculty members to determine if they rise to the level of discussion by the Senate.
N/A	6.16 Committee on the Faculty Handbook The Committee on the Faculty Handbook shall consist of thirteen (13) Senators: six (6) <i>ex-officio</i> members,	Newly established committee Faculty or administrators may propose changes to the Faculty Handbook

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	including three (3) Deans of the Schools, Colleges, and University Libraries and seven (7) elected faculty Senators, with at least one and no more than two representatives from each College, School, and the University Libraries, excluding the Law School. Each shall have the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. The Committee shall review and recommend changes to the Faculty Handbook and serve as a liaison to adjunct faculty members regarding such changes.	through the mechanism of this committee.
Committee on Student Affairs (language was previously in the bylaws). This Committee shall consist of thirteen members: two <i>ex officio</i> members who shall be the Vice President with jurisdiction over student life at Queens, and the Senior Vice President, Staten Island, or their designees, who need not be members of the University Senate, five student senators, one of whom shall be a graduate student, and six faculty members. This Committee shall be empowered to propose policy recommendations and to conduct a continuing review of student activities and student discipline as they affect more than one school or college. None of the foregoing provisions is intended to limit the Committee's authority to investigate, review and report on any University-wide student activities when so directed by the Senate. This Committee shall submit its findings and recommendations to the University Senate.	6.17 Committee on Student Affairs The Committee on Student Affairs shall consist of eleven (11) members: two (2) <i>ex-officio</i> members, one of whom shall be the Vice President of Student Affairs or their designee, who shall be the Chair; three (3) student Senators, one of whom shall be a graduate student; and six (6) elected faculty Senators. All members shall have equal rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. This Committee shall propose policy recommendations and may conduct a continuing review of student activities and student discipline as they affect more than one School or College.	The Chairperson of this Committee is now the Vice President of Student Affairs and all references to Staten Island are removed.
N/A	6.18 The Committee on University Statutes The Committee shall consist of thirteen (13) Senators with equal rights, privileges, and responsibilities, including voting rights. Membership shall include six (6)	Newly established provision Provides a mechanism for faculty members to request changes to the University Statutes through the Senate

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	<i>ex-officio</i> administrative members, three (3) of which are selected from the Deans of the Schools, Colleges, and University Libraries, seven (7) elected faculty Senators, with one (1) representative from each College, School, and University Libraries. The Committee shall review and recommend changes to Articles 3–10 of the University Statutes and may propose amendments, additions, or deletions to those Articles in accordance with Section 1.30(c) of the University Statutes.	in accordance with Section 1.30(c) of the University Statutes.
N/A	6.19 Procedure to Engage the Senate a. Any member or group within the University community may introduce a topic, including proposed revision of the University Statutes in accordance with Section 1.30(c) of the University Statutes and proposed revisions of the Faculty Handbook as set forth in Section 1.3.2 of the Faculty Handbook, through a University Senator. b. The process to engage a Senator will be set forth in the University Senate bylaws. c. All matters referred to the University Senate will undergo review in accordance with Section 6.11(d) of the University Statutes.	New Provision Provides a mechanism through which any member of the University community can bring a topic to the attention of the University Senate.
N/A	6.20 Disposition of Committee Charges a. If the Senate is acting in its deliberative capacity as described in Section 6.01(a), any advice or recommendation of the committee that is voted upon favorably by the full Senate will be transmitted by the Presiding Officer to the President of the	New to the Statutes. Adds a procedural method to “close the loop”.

University Statutes: Article 6 Comparison and Rationale – Changes to Senate

	University for review. In cases where there is significant/substantial budgetary implications, the recommendation will receive additional review by the Offices of the Provost and Business Affairs and be included with the information that is transmitted to the President, and if necessary, the Board of Trustees. The President or his/her designee with knowledge on the matter shall respond to any advice or recommendation transmitted under this provision to the full Senate at its next scheduled meeting and shall report the outcome of any Board review at the next scheduled meeting of the University Senate that follows such Board review. b. If the Senate is acting in its reflective capacity as described in Section 6.01(b), any guidance documents produced by a committee and voted upon favorably by the full Senate shall be transmitted to the President of the University for review and response by the President or his/her designee with knowledge on the matter during the next regularly scheduled meeting. If the Senate is offering an opinion paper to the UCCC or the GC, that paper will be transmitted to that body through the Secretary of the Senate who will invite a representative to attend the next regular meeting and provide feedback. c. Any request for information on a topic of University-wide interest as described in 6.01(c) must originate in a Committee and be presented to the full Senate for vote to move it forward to the appropriate party in the University. Upon a favorable vote, the Secretary of the Senate on behalf of the Executive Committee will arrange for such a presentation.	
--	--	--