**Faculty Senate Bill 458: Inclusion of Lecturers Among Full-Time Faculty (with Tenure, Tenure-Earning, Clinical and Research Faculty) as Eligible for Faculty Senate Membership [Bylaw Revision]**

History: Before FSEC on Feb. 11, 2021 following member submission; FSEC voted to defer until Chap. 7 out of Personnel and debated at Senate

Senate moved for First Reading at Senate on Feb. 25, 2021, motion itself supplanted by motion to Refer to Governance and Operations Committee on Feb. 25, 2021.

Governance and Operations acted and then returned to FSEC on Mar. 5, 2021.

At FSEC March 25, 2021 for consistency check and enacting language clean-up. Meeting postponed; before FSEC on April 1, 2021.

*“Faculty must participate in the structures of their governance systems because if they do not, authority will drift away from them, since someone must exercise it, and if members of the faculty do not, others will.”*

AAUP 1994 Statement on the Relationship of Faculty

Governance to Academic Freedom

**Whereas** the AAUP recommends both that “‘Faculty’ should be defined inclusively rather than exclusively” and that “Faculty members who hold contingent appointments should be afforded responsibilities and opportunities in governances similar to those of their tenured and tenure-track colleagues” (AAUP Report on Governance of Faculty Members Holding Contingent Appointments), and

**Whereas** “[t]he Faculty Senate is the permanent body representing the faculty for the formulation of university policy and procedures in matters pertaining to institutional purpose, general academic considerations, curricular matters, university resources, and faculty personnel (appointments, promotion, and tenure),”[1] and

**Whereas** full-time nontenure-earning Clinical and Research faculty serve in the Faculty Senate, and

**Whereas** full-time Lecturers have a significant and vested interest in--as they are affected by--Faculty Senate decisions that concern issues of teaching and curricula, academic organization and administration, university finances, and matters of employment benefits, and

**Whereas** the exclusion of full-time Lecturers from the Faculty Senate is antithetical to the Senate’s stated goal of shared governance, and

**Whereas** Senators are elected for two-year terms (Senate Bylaw II.D) while the length of Lecturer contracts is often one year, and

**Whereas** in the past years the number of lecturers continued to rise, their number doubling in some colleges (Science), while the number of tenure-earning positions has stagnated or even decreased sharply in some colleges (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences), and

**Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the following sections of the Faculty Senate Bylaws, as presented in Appendix L of the Faculty Handbook and as recently revised in Faculty Senate Resolution 20/21-04, be changed accordingly to include “lecturers”among other full-time faculty--tenured, tenure-earning, research, and clinical faculty--as these sections regard Faculty Senate membership eligibility and Faculty Senate representation requirements per academic unit or department.

**Appendix L, section II. Membership, sub-section B:**

Any **full-time tenured , tenure-earning , clinical , or research faculty member,** including department chairs, will be eligible to be elected to membership in the Senate; administrators above the level of department chairs are not eligible to serve. Lecturers must have three consecutive years of full-time service at UAH before they are eligible to serve in the Faculty Senate. If a formally-recognized department from the units listed in (II.C.1) is represented by two or more members, based on the algorithm described in (II.C.2), only one member can be Lecturer.

**Appendix L, section II. Membership, sub-section C. Distribution**

1. Each of the units:

* College of Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences;
* College of Science;
* College of Engineering;
* College of Business
* College of Nursing;
* College of Education, and
* the Library

will have a number of members in the Senate which will assure that the unit has one member for each seven **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, clinical faculty, research faculty, and lecturer** **members**, or major fraction thereof. Units will not have representation until they have at least four members from among **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, clinical faculty, research faculty, and lecturers**.

1. Each unit named in (1) which has formally recognized departments will elect its senators as follows: within the unit each formally recognized department will elect one member of the Senate for each seven **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturer member** in the department, or major fraction thereof. Elections will be held by the **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturer members** of each department. If necessary, all **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturers** will then elect sufficient at-large members to bring the total unit membership (including department selections) up to the number required to achieve the 1:7 ratio.

1. Units named in (1) which have no formally recognized departments will elect one senator for each seven **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturers** in the unit, or major fraction thereof. Elections will be by the **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, research faculty, clinical faculty, and lecturers** of the unit.

**Appendix L, section II. Membership, sub-section E.**

Each college or academic department is responsible for determining nominees for their faculty senate membership, and is responsible to conduct elections. All **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, clinical faculty, research faculty, and lecturers** of an electoral unit shall be eligible to vote in the election of senators. Vacancies in the representation of any department or unit shall be filled as soon as practical by the department or unit by election.

**Appendix L, section III: Officers and Staff of the Faculty Senate, subsection C.**

Election of Officers: In the spring of each year, the Senate Governance Committee will nominate

from the Senate membership (from current members of the faculty senate and from newly-elected incoming members) candidate(s) for president-elect and ombudsperson. Contract faculty must have at least three years left on their contract in order to become nominees for the position of president-elect. The names of these candidates will go to all **full-time tenured faculty, tenure-earning faculty, clinical faculty, research faculty, and lecturers** of the university for election. This election will be conducted by the Senate Governance Committee before the end of the spring semester. As the president and president-elect serves the entire faculty, the department/unit from which the president/president-elect is selected will elect another senator to represent the department/unit during the officer’s term of office.

[1] Faculty Handbook 6.2