**Faculty Senate Bill 459:**

**Handbook Chapter 4 Ombudsperson**

History: Passed First Reading at FSEC Mar. 4, 2021

At Faculty Senate for Second Reading on Mar. 11, 2021; Amended at Second Reading and Ad Hoc Subcommittee directed to write bylaw revision language for consideration for inclusion by Senate.

Ad Hoc Subcommittee wrote revision languages which was circulated at FSEC on April 1 and then was brought to Senate floor on April 8, 2021.

Passed Second Reading on April 8, 2021. Third Reading must be after 30 days have elapsed due to Second Reading changing of initial language.

**W**HEREAS, the UAH Faculty Senate approved Chapter 4 of the Faculty Handbook in January 21, 2021, without a section on the election and duties of the Ombudsperson, and

**W**HEREAS, a Senate sub-committee has revised the language of section 4.11. Ombudsperson

**N**OW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the text that follows be considered approved by the UAH Faculty Senate as the new section 4.11. of Chapter 4 of the UAH Faculty Handbook, and

**B**E IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That upon final Senate approval and notice from the Administration of its concurring approval of this resolution, that the text that follows be adopted as the new Section 4.11. of Chapter 4 of the UAH Faculty Handbook, and

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: That if this bill is accepted, the Faculty Senate commits to revise in a timely manner the portions of its bylaws about the Ombuds in a manner consistent with the 4.11 outline below.

**B**E IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That the Senate officers shall update the Faculty Senate web page with the revised Section 4.11. of Chapter 4 that follows, provided both final Senate approval and Administration notice of concurring approval of this resolution have been received.

4.11 Ombudsperson

The faculty ombudsperson is a faculty member at the rank of Associate Professor or higher. The Provost appoints an ombudsperson selected from two nominees favorably recommended for appointment by the Faculty Senate. Said nominees will be determined as follows. First, any interested party shall submit an application to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, who shall vote to prepare a slate of candidates, each of whom has the majority support from the FSEC. Preference will be given to candidates who have served at least one term in the Faculty Senate.  Second, that slate will be voted on by the eligible faculty, in the same season as the Senate officer elections. The two candidates with the highest number of votes are the two nominees. The ombudsperson’s appointment, typically a one-third time appointment during the academic year, will include one three-credit-hour course release per semester and a summer stipend of $ 10,000, as of 2021, and increasing with the average raise pool.  The length of term is two academic years.  The current ombudsperson may reapply to FSEC. As the university grows in size, and the requirements of the position grow proportionally, both the course release and stipend will be adjusted to reflect the increased work load.  The faculty ombudsperson follows the International Ombudsman Association Standards of Practice and must undergo the training provided by the International Ombudsman Association.

And BE IT RESOLVED:

That the text below labelled III.B and III.C be considered approved by the UAH Faculty Senate as replacement for Section III, Subsections B and C of the Faculty Senate by-laws.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That upon final Senate approval and notice from the System that this resolution is not inconsistent with Board requirements, that the text below labelled III.B and III.C be adopted as the new Section III, Subsections B and C of the Faculty Senate by-laws.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That the Senate officers shall update the Faculty Senate web page’s Senate By-laws entry with the revised text below labelled III.B and III.C, provided both final Senate approval and notice from the System that this resolution is not inconsistent with Board requirements have been received.

## III. Officers and Staff of the Faculty Senate

B. Term: Term of office for the president and the president-elect will be one year beginning on the first day of the Fall semester of each year. The president-elect will assume the office of Senate president at the end of the president's term of office. The ombudsperson will serve for two years beginning on the first day of a Fall semester.

C. Election of Officers: In the spring of each year, the Senate Governance Committee will coordinate the nomination process from the Senate membership (new and old) for candidate(s) for president-elect, and it will coordinate nominations for the ombudsperson every other year. The names of these candidates will go to all tenured, tenure earning, research and clinical faculty 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.