

University Faculty Senate
Governance Committee
171st Plenary
SUNY Buffalo State
October 24, 2015

**Resolution on Changes to the Policies of the Board of Trustees
with respect to Officers of the University Faculty Senate**

Whereas the addition of the President of the University Faculty Senate to the SUNY Board of Trustees has substantially increased the workload of the President, and

Whereas recent UFS presidents have accommodated the increased workload by increasingly delegating tasks to the Vice-President/Secretary, and

Whereas as the Vice-President/Secretary increasingly represents the UFS in a variety of venues, and

Whereas the potential exists for situations in which the position that the Vice-President/Secretary must support and present on behalf of the UFS may be perceived to be in conflict with interests of the campus that the incumbent was elected to represent,

Now therefore be it resolved that the University Faculty Senate recommends to the Board of Trustees that its Policies be amended to have the Vice-President/Secretary relinquish the position of Senator upon assuming the office of Vice-President/Secretary, and

Be it further resolved that to so effectuate, the Senate recommends to the Board of Trustees that Article VII, Title C of the Policies of the Board of Trustees be amended as indicated, and

Be it further resolved that effective upon approval by the Board of Trustees the same changes are made to Article III, Section A of the University Faculty Senate Bylaws.

TITLE C. OFFICERS

§ 1. President of the Senate.

Before July 1 of each odd-numbered year, the Senate shall elect one of its elected members **or the current Vice-President/Secretary** as President of the Senate for a term of two years. Upon election as President to the Senate, ~~the~~ **an** elected member shall vacate the position as the representative of his or her unit in the Senate. The President of the Senate shall preside at all meetings of the Senate and shall exercise such other powers and duties as may be vested in the President by this Article and the bylaws of the Senate. The President shall be an ex officio member of all Senate committees. The President of the Senate may be reelected for a second term, but may not thereafter be eligible for a successive term **provided however that a President initially elected to fill the minor portion of a**

term arising from a vacancy is eligible to serve two additional successive full terms.

§ 2. Vice-President/Secretary.

Before July 1 of each even-numbered year, the Senate shall elect one of its elected members to serve as Vice-President/Secretary for a term of two years. **Upon election as Vice-President/Secretary, the elected member shall vacate the position as representative of his or her unit in the Senate and shall serve as a nonvoting member of the Senate.** The Vice-President/Secretary shall take and keep minutes of the Senate and shall exercise such other powers and duties as the Senate shall provide in its bylaws. The Vice-President/Secretary shall serve as President of the Senate during that officer's absence or inability to act. ~~Any regular member of the Senate is eligible to serve as Vice-President/Secretary for one year beyond the expiration of his or her three year term as a Senate member. In such case, the Vice-President/Secretary shall become a nonvoting member of the Senate and the unit shall be represented by a regularly elected successor.~~

The Vice-President/Secretary of the Senate may be reelected for a second term, but may not thereafter be eligible for a successive term provided however that a Vice-President/Secretary initially elected to fill the minor portion of a term arising from a vacancy is eligible to serve two additional successive full terms.

§ 3. Vacancies.

A vacancy in the office of President or Vice-President/ Secretary shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original election, at the next succeeding meeting of the Senate following the occurrence of the vacancy. In the interim, the Executive Committee shall elect one of its members to serve in an acting capacity until the vacancy is filled.

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Passed