Faculty Senate approved v1: February 13th, 2018
Faculty Senate Advisory Committee approved revisions: August 28th, 2018
Faculty Senate approved v2: September 11th, 2018
Faculty consideration: November 16th, 2018

Sponsors: Kelly Smith, Philosophy and Religion; John Whitcomb, Nursing; Denise Anderson Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management and Associate Dean of CBHS; Sarah Winslow Sociology and Anthropology; Bridget Trogden, Engineering and Science Education and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies; J. Cole Smith, Industrial Engineering; Laura Stanley, Industrial Engineering; Mary E. Kurz, Industrial Engineering; Joshua Summers, Mechanical Engineering; Mark Smotherman, School of Computing; Danny Weathers, Marketing; Cassie Quigley, Teaching and Learning; Amy Lawton-Rauh, Genetics and Biochemistry.

Signatories: Ellen Granberg, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs

Topic: “Amendment of THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF CLEMSON UNIVERSITY in regards to Voting and Quorum”

Whereas, Clemson University makes provision for faculty participation in planning, policy-making, and decision-making with regard to academic matters; and

Whereas, the University also provides for such participation in matters of faculty welfare and general university concern; and

Whereas, THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF CLEMSON UNIVERSITY establishes that: “The Faculty shall conduct all parliamentary procedure in accordance with the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.”; and

Whereas, further defining the phrase “present” allows the use of technology for attendance and voting as outlined in the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order; and

Whereas, the encumbrances of requiring voting membership to be physically present at meetings and voting with exclusively visual and audio methods outweigh the efficacy; and

Whereas, there remains a provision within THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF CLEMSON UNIVERSITY defining Quorum for amendment of the constitution of at least one-half of the faculty; it is

(continued)
Resolved. That the last paragraph of Article V of THE CONSTITUTION OF THE FACULTY OF CLEMSON UNIVERSITY be struck out: “The Provost shall publicize a proposed amendment at least three weeks prior to the meeting at which action is to be taken. Amendments may be considered at either of the regular faculty meetings held at the conclusion of the long semesters. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present is required for passage with a quorum defined as at least one-half of the faculty, exclusive of emeritus faculty. Any amendment passed by the faculty shall become effective upon approval by the Clemson University Board of Trustees” and substitute “The Provost shall publicize a proposed amendment at least three weeks prior to the meeting at which action is to be taken. Amendments may be considered at any duly called meeting of the Faculty where the required quorum is present. A two-thirds majority vote is required of the members who are present at a duly called meeting, where a quorum exists of at least one-half of the faculty (exclusive of emeritus faculty). The vote may be taken by voice or by ballot (the form of the ballot to be approved by the Faculty Senate); however, only one methodology may be utilized for all members voting at the meeting. Participation in the meeting, whether corporal or by means of conference telephone, video conferencing equipment, or similar communications equipment shall constitute presence at such meeting so long as all members participating in the meeting can hear each other. Any amendment passed by the faculty shall become effective upon approval by the Clemson University Board of Trustees.”

This resolution, if adopted by the Faculty will be presented by the Provost during the next Board of Trustees quarterly meeting February 7-8, 2019. The Constitutional amendment listed in the resolution will become effective upon approval by the Clemson University Board of Trustees. If approved by the Clemson University Board of Trustees the next subsequent meeting of the Faculty, conducted in accordance with the amended definition, that includes measures up for consideration by the Faculty will be voted on by a method determined by the Faculty Senate.

FINAL PROPOSED LANGUAGE

“ARTICLE V: AMENDMENT

Constitutional amendments may be proposed by either of two methods.

A proposed amendment may be submitted by at least ten members of the faculty to the Faculty Senate at a regular meeting of that body. The Faculty Senate must vote on the proposed amendment at no later than the fourth meeting after submission. A simple majority vote is required for the proposed amendment to be submitted to the faculty. Alternatively, a proposed amendment to this Constitution may be submitted in writing to the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost one month before the next scheduled faculty meeting. Signatures of at least ten percent of the members of the faculty must accompany the proposed amendment in order to validate the proposal.

The Provost shall publicize a proposed amendment at least three weeks prior to the meeting at which action is to be taken. Amendments may be considered at any duly called meeting of the Faculty where the required quorum is present. A two-thirds majority vote of the members present is required for passage with a quorum defined as at least one-half of the faculty, exclusive of emeritus faculty. The vote may be taken by voice or by ballot (the form of the ballot to be approved by the Faculty Senate); however, only one methodology may be utilized for all members voting at the meeting. Participation in the meeting, whether corporal or by means of conference telephone, video conferencing equipment, or similar communications equipment shall constitute presence at such meeting so long as all members participating in the meeting can hear each other. Any amendment passed by the faculty shall become effective upon approval by the Clemson University Board of Trustees.”