

Ballot: UNM Faculty Constitution Revisions

The Faculty Constitution (Policy A51 in the Faculty Handbook) defines and governs the membership and responsibilities of the University Faculty including shared governance procedures and composition of shared governance organizations (General Faculty, Faculty Senate, AF&T Committee, and Committee on Governance). It defines the organization of Schools/College and Departments including membership, procedures, and meetings. It broadly defines the titles, responsibilities, and duties of the upper Administration. Finally, the Constitution provides for adoption and amendments thereof. Revisions have been written in consultation with the Faculty Senate, administration, and the Chair of the Regent's Academic, Student Affairs and Research Committee and presented twice at General Faculty Meetings on October 22, 2014 and November 21, 2014. Comments put forth at these meetings and through email have been considered and incorporated as appropriate.

This ballot is separated into non-substantive and substantive changes. The non-substantive revisions are all included in ballot item number one to be either approved or not approved as a block. The substantive items are presented individually as ballot items two through seven and only those items receiving the required two-thirds majority vote will pass. Faculty approved ballot items will be subject to the approval of the Board of Regents.

The following items are provided for your reference:

- [Excerpt from the Faculty Constitution on amendments \(pdf\)](#)
- [Proposed revisions to the Faculty Constitution with track changes \(pdf\)](#)
- [Proposed revisions to the Faculty Constitution without track changes \(pdf\)](#)
- [Background and rationale from the Committee on Governance for proposed substantive changes \(pdf\)](#)

Non-Substantive Changes

Ballot Item 1

The list below broadly describes the proposed non-substantive changes. To review all specific non-substantive recommendations in track change format, click on the link provided below.

Underscored text = new

~~Strike through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

- Clean up excessive language to be concise
- Title changes/updates
- Update outdated information to current state
- Remove University Libraries callouts as it is now a college
- Move sections to more appropriate areas

General format/grammatical clean up

[Faculty Constitution Non-Substantive with track changes \(Pdf\)](#)

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #1	524	90.97%
No, I do not approve ballot item #1	33	5.73%
Abstain	19	3.3%
Sum:	576	100%

Substantive Changes

Ballot Item 2

Inclusion of the Faculty Handbook in Article I, Section 2

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

(b) The enunciation of the rights and responsibilities delegated to University Faculty in Section 2(a) and resulting policies shall be contained or referenced in the Faculty Handbook. All university policies pertain to the rights and responsibilities of faculty, the terms and conditions of faculty employment, and academic matters shall be published in the Faculty Handbook by the Secretary of the University under the jurisdiction of the duly elected faculty governing leaders. The Faculty Handbook shall have primacy, as delegated to the faculty by the Board of Regents, over all faculty policies and procedures.

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #2	530	92.01%
No, I do not approve ballot item #2	29	5.03%
Abstain	17	2.95%
Sum:	576	100%

Ballot Item 3

Members of the Committee on Governance shall be tenured (Article I, Section 5c)

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

(c) A committee of five voting members, all of whom shall be tenured, of the general faculty to be known as the Committee on Governance who are not members of the Faculty Senate shall be nominated and elected by mail ballot for overlapping three-year terms. Duties of this committee are to prepare, in conjunction with the Secretary of the University, the agenda of faculty meetings; to oversee elections, including referenda; to recommend adjustments, improvements and refinements in the faculty organizational structure; to represent the general faculty to the Senate; and to call meetings of the general faculty when necessary. The committee shall annually elect a chair.

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #3	300	51.19%
No, I do not approve ballot item #3	273	46.59%
Abstain	13	2.22%
Sum:	586	100%

Ballot Item 4

Presiding Officer of the Faculty Senate shall be tenured (Article I, Section 6d)

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

(d) Organization and Procedures: The members of the Faculty Senate shall determine how the Senate shall be organized and what procedures shall be established to carry out the responsibilities delegated to it by Sec. 6(a) above; provided, however, that the presiding officer(s) of the Senate shall be elected by the voting membership from among their number, and must have tenure, provided that the Secretary of the University shall serve as the secretary of the Senate.

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #4	306	52.76%
No, I do not approve ballot item #4	260	44.83%
Abstain	14	2.41%
Sum:	580	100%

Ballot Item 5

Change in calculation of number of Faculty Senators in Article I, Section 6

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

(b) The Faculty Senate shall be composed as follows:

(i) The Faculty Senate shall be made up of 68 members, of which 63 are chosen according to the number of full-time voting faculty in each academic unit, and 5 chosen at large except as noted in vi below. The number of senators for each academic unit (school, college, or branch with a full-time academic faculty) shall be determined yearly by first dividing the set number of senators (63) into the total number of voting faculty in the University followed by using this resulting number to determine the proportional representation for each of the units with academic faculty. This calculation will be subject to modification as specified by the following rules.

(ii) For purposes of calculating the number of full-time faculty members the actual number of full-time contracted faculty shall be used. Budgeted positions not filled and part-time faculty will not be counted.

(iii) All academic units will be represented by at least one senator; that is, those units whose proportional representation is calculated as zero due to their small number of faculty, will be assigned one senator while maintaining a total of 63 senators(excluding the at-large senators).

(iv) No academic unit will be represented by more than one-third of the senators chosen proportionally; that is, those academic units whose proportion of all full-time voting faculty would be greater than 21 senators out of 63 will be assigned only 21 senators.

(v) The remaining academic units, that is, those units whose number of senators are not assigned by the rules in iii and iv, will be assigned a number of senators according to the proportion of the full-time voting faculty of those units out of the remaining senators (that is, the remainder from 63 after the assignment of senators to units as modified by iii and iv).

(vi) If there is a discrepancy in number of senators assigned by proportion according to ii, iii, iv, and v due to rounding, that is, if the number of senators assigned by proportion according to ii-v leads to a total of 64 or 62 senators, then the number of senators chosen at-large will be adjusted so that the total number of senators remains at 68.

(vii) A full-time faculty member holding appointments in more than one school or college shall select his constituent school or college for purposes of representation in and election to the Faculty Senate by filing a written notice of such selection with the Secretary of the University no later than the first day of the spring semester of each election year.

(viii) The Provost, Chancellor, vice presidents and associate vice presidents of the university and all deans of schools and colleges and directors from branch colleges shall be ex-officio, non-voting members of the Faculty Senate.

(viii) The President of the University, the Secretary of the University, and the Presidents of the Associated Students (ASUNM) and the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) shall be ex-officio members of the Faculty Senate without vote.

Ballot Item 5 Continued

Change in calculation of number of Faculty Senators in Article I, Section 6

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #5	461	79.9%
No, I do not approve ballot item #5	59	10.23%
Abstain	57	9.88%
Sum:	577	100%

Ballot Item 6

Inclusion of Provost or Chancellor in Dean/Director (re)appointments in Article III, Section 3.

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

~~See Section 3. Deans/Directors of Colleges and Schools:~~

(a)(1) The Provost may appoint or reappoint Deans of Colleges and Schools and the Dean of Graduate Studies and delegate to such Deans as is consistent with Regent policies (except as per Section (a)2 below). shall be made recommended to the President by the Provost or Chancellor for Health Sciences after In this connection, the Provost will, prior to any such appointment or reappointment of Deans, consultation with the President, departmental college faculty and chairs, Faculty Senate President, University officers, and other interested persons. In the case of the appointment or reappointment of the Dean of Graduate Studies, the Provost will, in addition to the consultations noted above, also consult with the shall be made recommended to the President by the Provost after appropriate consultation with the Faculty Senate President, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee.

(2) Pursuant to the provisions of Regents Policy 3.4, the Chancellor for Health Sciences may appoint or reappoint Deans of the component colleges and schools of the Health Sciences Center and may delegate to such Deans as is consistent with Regent policies and policies of the University that are applicable to the Health Sciences Center. In this connection, the Chancellor for Health Sciences will, prior to that appointment or reappointment, consult with the President, departmental college faculty and chairs, Faculty Senate President, other University officers, and other interested persons. Deans of Colleges and Schools: The appointment of Deans of Colleges shall be recommended to the Regents by the President after appropriate consultation with all Department Heads of the Colleges concerned, University Officers, and other interested persons. The appointment of the Dean of Graduate Studies shall be recommended to the Regents by the President after appropriate consultation with the Senate Committee on Graduate Programs and Standards, University Officers, and other interested persons.

Ballot Item 6 Continued

Inclusion of Provost or Chancellor in Dean/Director (re)appointments in Article III, Section 3.

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #6	465	80.31%
No, I do not approve ballot item #6	60	10.36%
Abstain	54	9.33%
Sum:	579	100%

Ballot Item 7

Removal of "Other Administrative Officers", Article III, Section 4

Underscored text = new

~~Striked through text~~ = delete

Unmarked text = no change

~~Sec. Section 4 Other Administrative Officers: The appointment of administrative deans (Dean of Students) and other chief administrative officers shall be recommended to the Regents by the President. They shall perform such duties as properly pertain to their offices.~~

Frequency Table

Choices	Absolute frequency	Adjusted relative frequency
Yes, I approve ballot item #7	482	83.39%
No, I do not approve ballot item #7	36	6.23%
Abstain	60	10.38%
Sum:	578	100%