

CAL POLY HUMBOLDT
University Senate

Resolution to Amend the University Senate Constitution and the Faculty Handbook to Eliminate the Senate Faculty's Authority to Approve Candidates for Graduation

09-22/23-CBC — November 29, 2022 — Second Reading

RESOLVED: That the University Senate Constitution be revised to eliminate Section 2.6 (Duties), which grants Senate tenure-line faculty the authority to recommend approval of candidates for graduation.

RESOLVED: That Section 310 of the Faculty Handbook be revised to eliminate Faculty Approval of candidates for graduation.

RATIONALE:

This resolution removes the Senate tenure-line faculty's role in approving candidates for graduation. By approving this change, the Senate recognizes that this authority, in place since the mid-1960s, has become ceremonial in nature and has no administrative function. Faculty shared governance is not adversely impacted by its elimination.

University Senate Constitution, Section 2.6 , reads as follows:

The ultimate authority to recommend approval of candidates for graduation shall reside with the tenure-line faculty. Only members of the Senate who are elected as tenure-line faculty shall vote in the matter of approving the list of candidates for graduation.

The motion associated with Senate approval of the graduation list would likewise be dispensed with: "that the University Senate of Humboldt State University accept the final graduation list for [date] and recommend the graduation of all persons whose names are on that list subject to the provision that any student whose name is on the list and who has not fulfilled the requirements for graduation, will have her or his name removed from the list and that student shall not graduate."

Section 310 of the Faculty Handbook, reads as follows:

310. APPROVAL OF GRADUATES

Upon the recommendation of the faculty, the Trustees of the CSU grant diplomas to graduates who have completed prescribed courses of study. Faculty approval of the graduates is effected by approval of the list of candidates by the University Senate. This

approval follows distribution of the list of candidates for graduation to department chairs and any other faculty who request them. The list sent to department chairs should be posted for review by concerned faculty. The Division of Enrollment Management shall also distribute to all faculty, each semester, a memorandum advising faculty of the posting of the list. Provision is made that objections by faculty members to names on the list submitted by the Division of Enrollment Management and be heard by the University Senate. The list of candidates at a summer session commencement requires the approval of the summer session faculty only."

The new wording shall be as follows:

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