

**HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**University Senate**

**Resolution to Amend the *Bylaws of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* to Define  
Temporary Vacancies on the University Senate**

21-15/16-CBC – February 23, 2016 – First Reading

**RESOLVED:** That the University Senate of Humboldt State University approves the attached amendments to the Senate *Bylaws*; and be it further

**RESOLVED:** That these changes will go into effect only if the revisions proposed in Resolution 19-15/16-CBC-February 23, 2016, to amend the Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University to Define Interim Membership on the University Senate, are approved by the Senate electorates in accordance with section 9.0 of the Senate *Constitution*.

**RATIONALE:** *These changes define a temporary vacancy in a Senate seat and the procedure to fill the temporary vacancy. This addition is necessary to align the Senate Bylaws with amendments to the Constitution which allow for elected members to serve interim ex-officio roles.*

*Proposed Revisions with Track Changes*

**12.4 Vacancies**

12.41 The Senate seat of an elected member shall become vacant when the member:

- a) resigns from the Senate
- b) becomes an ex officio member of the Senate
- c) fails to meet the eligibility requirements for membership in the Senate
- d) or falls under one of the following absence rules:
  - i. is absent without a proxy for three consecutive regular meetings
  - ii. is absent but represented by a proxy for five or more regular meetings a semester
  - iii. is ~~absent (on leave)~~ on leave of absence, regardless of reason, for more than one semester.

~~(The absence rules do not apply to leaves of one semester or less.)~~

12.42 The Senate Office staff shall report leaves and extended absences of senators to the Appointments and Elections ~~Subcommittee~~ Committee, which shall certify the existence of a vacancy and proceed to fill it as prescribed.

12.43 Any vacancy which may occur between regular elections among elected senators to the University Senate shall be filled by a special election. Any person so elected shall

represent the appropriate academic unit and shall serve the remainder of the vacated term.

## 12.5 Temporary Vacancies

12.51 The Senate seat of an elected member shall become “temporarily vacant” when the member:

- a) takes a leave of absence for one semester or less
- b) serves as an Interim Ex-Officio member of the Senate for one semester or less

12.52 The Senate Office staff shall report temporary vacancies to the Appointments and Elections Committee, which shall certify the existence of a temporary vacancy.

12.53 Any temporary vacancy shall be filled by appointment through the Appointments and Elections Committee. The Committee shall solicit nominations from the electorate for the Senate seat that is being temporarily vacated. The Committee will forward its recommendation for appointment to the Senate for approval. Any person so appointed shall serve as an Interim Elected member until such time as the originally elected member returns to their elected Senate seat or until the end of the semester, whichever comes first.

## 12.512.6 Elections within the Senate

12.512.61 The annual election of Senate officers... *(remaining text of this section not shown)*

12.512.62 Removal from Elected Positions in the Senate... *(remaining text of this section not shown)*

## 12.612.7 Censure of Senators... (remaining text of this section not shown)