

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY
Academic Senate

Resolution On Proposed University Senate Documents
#28-10/11-FAC – March 29, 2011

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the attached *Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, **as revised March 29, 2011**, be submitted to the General Faculty of Humboldt State University for a ratification vote; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that the proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* be submitted to the General Faculty of Humboldt State University for a ratification vote; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that should the Revision to the *Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, the [use titles from documents] proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University* and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of Humboldt State* be ratified by a majority vote of the General Faculty in residence that the revised constitutions and bylaws become effective at the beginning of the Spring semester 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED: That the Academic Senate of Humboldt State University recommends that should any of these documents, the *Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*, the proposed *Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University Senate* and the proposed *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure of the University Senate of the Humboldt State University Senate*, NOT be ratified by a majority of the faculty voting, then the current General Faculty Constitution (Appendix E of the Faculty Handbook) including Article IV (The Academic Senate), and the Bylaws and Rules of the Academic Senate (Appendix F of the Faculty Handbook) shall remain in force until such time as revised or amended by the General Faculty.

Rationale: In its February 2, 2010 report, *Building the Capacity for Change: Improving the structure and culture of Decision making at HSU*, the Cabinet for Institutional Change made specific recommendations with regard to campus governance at HSU (Section 2 of the Focus Areas). In the background discussion the Cabinet provided, they noted that "...all constituencies should be directly involved in developing policy that reflects shared goals, ..." (p.9). After review of the report, the Academic Senate referred the governance issues in the document to the Faculty Affairs Committee for review. Based on a report from that committee, the Senate charged the committee to "begin articulating, in written form and to the wider HSU community, a new Senate structure for HSU, a *University Senate* built on the model of the Senate at SDSU...." (April 2, 2010). The Faculty Affairs committee has worked on that charge,

conferring frequently with the Senate and holding Town Hall meetings during the fall semester to gather input.

The Academic Senate of Humboldt State University was created by the Constitution of the General Faculty. It serves as the primary voice of the faculty and is given its powers by the General Faculty Constitution. It is not a body of the University; it is a body of the General Faculty. The HSU Academic Senate does include administrators, staff and students, though in small numbers and with limited voting privileges. However, only the faculty can vote to change the General Faculty Constitution, and in doing so dissolve the Academic Senate and replace it with a University Senate.