

**DRAFT**

**DRAFT**

# Constitution of the University Senate of Humboldt State University

## PREAMBLE

---

**As of March 17, 2011/March 29, 2011**

### **1.0 Shared Governance**

The University Senate, also called the Senate, is a deliberative body comprised of faculty, staff, administrators and students who work together to support the educational mission of Humboldt State University. The University shall perform its educational mission guided by the principles of shared governance as affirmed in the Higher Education Employer-Employees Relations Act (art. 1, sec. 3561b). Both Article I of the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act (HEERA) and the American Association of University Professors “Statement on Governance of Colleges and Universities” (1990) affirm the responsibilities of faculty to participate in governance for the sake of the betterment of the University. Both these documents call upon faculty and administration to contribute with good will toward shared and harmonious decision making. It is essential that such decision making be informed by the experience and expertise of the members of the University community. Granted, therefore, that the Board of Trustees of The California State University invests responsibility for the operation of Humboldt State University in the President of the university, the President shall be committed to formal consultation through shared governance. Accordingly, committees and councils shall advise the President either directly or through the University Senate. The Senate shall be the primary body formulating, reviewing and recommending policies to the President. The Senate shall also advise in the selection of future Presidents of the University and future administrators of high rank.

### **2.0 Approval of Graduates**

The ultimate authority to recommend approval of candidates for graduation shall reside with the tenured and tenure-track faculty. Following formal advice of the tenured and tenure-track faculty, only the tenured and tenure-track faculty members of the Senate shall vote in the matter of approving the list of candidates for graduation.

### 3.0 Special Meetings of General Faculty

Special meetings of the faculty may be called under these conditions: (a) upon the call of the President of the university, at which time the President shall preside; (b) upon the call of the

---

Pg. 5

### 5.0 Officers and Parliamentarian

5.1 *The President of the General Faculty shall be the* Chair of the Senate, ~~who shall be the President of the General Faculty,~~ *and* shall be annually elected by the *general* faculty at large at the time of regular ~~senate~~ *General Faculty* elections. The Chair shall be a faculty member in residence who has completed three years of employment at the University and who has at least two years experience serving on the University Senate. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Senate and may call special meetings of the Senate.

---

Pg. 8

### 9.0 Amendments

Amendments to this Constitution shall be initiated by a majority vote of the Senate after having been presented at the previous meeting. ~~Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the full-time faculty electorate (as defined in sec. 4.32 of the Preamble).~~ The Senate shall direct the ~~Committee on Committees and Elections~~ *Appointments and Elections Committee* to conduct ~~a mailed ballot~~ a vote on all proposed amendments. *The committee shall establish procedures for voting on the amendment. These procedures shall be approved prior to the vote by a majority vote of the Senate.* An amendment shall be adopted by an affirmative vote of a ~~majority~~ *no less than 51%* of those voting.