

## **Resolution for a 3 (three) minute limit on debate and questions at the Faculty Senate meetings to the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate.**

### **Preamble**

Life is short (71 year equals approximately 37.3 million minutes). We are all very busy. Time spent attending University at Buffalo Faculty Senate Meetings should be meaningful! Each agenda item has a specific time allotment. Each Senator, representing their constituents, has opinions. Everyone who wants to speak should be able to speak. No one should dominate a discussion.

**Whereas**, The faculty Senate meetings have a limited time period in which to perform the work required;

**Whereas**, The time of each members of Faculty Senate is valuable and should be used to maximum efficiency; and

**Whereas**, time limits on questions and debate are frequently imposed in legislative bodies and Robert's Rules lists a 10 (ten) minute limit on debate unless extended by a majority vote; and

**Therefore be it resolved**, no one shall speak a second time until all Senators who want to speak get a turn; and

**Therefore be it resolved**, that a time limit of 3 (three) minutes be imposed on each Faculty Senate member on all questions and debate related to topics under discussion, excluding presentation of the Chair, Provost, President, and committee reports; and

That this time limit will be kept by the Chair or the Chair-designee; and

**Therefore be it resolved**, That members may yield their time to other members who desire it, after recognition by the Chair, with the understanding that they then lose this time on this topic.

That any response to direct questions by other members regarding positions taken by a member or for general clarification will not be counted against the 3 (three) minute limit.