

Originating Committee: Bylaws

Date Forwarded by FSEC to Senate: April 14, 2026

Date of First Reading: April 21, 2026

Date of Second Reading: April 28, 2026

Action at Second Reading: Voting Listed at Individual Resolutions (See Below)

## **Background**

Several proposals have been made this year concerning standing committees. All are collected in this document.

### *Tenure, Promotions, and Privileges Committee*

The charge for the Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges Committee reads:

This Committee shall review, report and recommend to the senate matters concerning standards within the university regarding appointment, promotion and tenure of faculty, and matters concerning faculty rights and privileges.

The committee wishes to change its name to the “Committee on Appointments, Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges” to better reflect all of the subjects in its charge. The Bylaws Committee recommends approving the request.

### *Equity and Diversity Committee*

The charge for the Equity and Diversity Committee reads:

This committee shall review, report and recommend to the senate on issues and practices pertaining to:

- Affirmative action in the recruitment, appointment and retention of faculty members.
- Improvement of intergroup relations and communications.
- Reduction of prejudice at the university.
- Minimizing salary equity issues.

This year, the Equity and Diversity Committee evaluated its mission and work. As a result, the Committee wishes to update its charge to read

The Faculty Senate’s Equity and Diversity Committee is committed to fostering a university environment grounded in respect, dignity, and belonging for all members of the academic community. This committee shall review, report, advocate, and recommend to the Senate on issues and practices regarding all forms of bigotry, including but not limited to racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, ageism, sexism, and sexual violence. Its

goal is to support the Faculty Senate in cultivating a culture of genuine belonging—one in which people with diverse perspectives and backgrounds are actively valued rather than marginalized to maintain the status quo. The Committee also recommends policies and practices that advance diversity in faculty hiring, retention, and promotion as well as equitable compensation and institutional support for all faculty members.

The Bylaws Committee recommends approving the request.

### *Veterans Matters*

The Faculty Senate Executive Committee formed a Veterans Matters Committee on February 14, 2018.<sup>1</sup> The committee was populated on February 28, 2018.<sup>2</sup> The Charter of the Faculty Senate empowers the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to create ad-hoc committees. Committees are to be provided with “a charge stating its assignment and the length of its existence.” Charter of the Faculty Senate VI(3). Neither are recorded in the minutes. The Faculty Senate website lists a “Veterans Support” committee with the charge, “This committee shall review, report and recommend to the senate matters concerning policies, procedures and actions within the university regarding US military veteran (and active duty) matters for students, staff, faculty and community.”

The committee (noted as the “UB AD Hoc Veteran’s Committee”) was charged and had its initial meeting before the September 12, 2018, FSEC meeting.<sup>3</sup> There is no record of any further appointments to the committee nor of the committee ever reporting to the FSEC.

### *Campus Environment and Sustainability*

On May 14, 2019, the Faculty Senate created a standing committee for Campus Environment and Sustainability.<sup>4</sup> The charge is not properly in the record, nor was it ever added to the list of standing committees in the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate as is required by Section VI(2)(A) of the Charter. The minutes of the meeting where the resolution had its first reading likewise do not include the resolution text or charge, but do note that, “FS will have a committee coordinating with the Professional sustainable committee.”<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_1031485331/file.res/FSEC%2002142018%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/_jcr_content/par/download_1031485331/file.res/FSEC%2002142018%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_233169562/file.res/2.%20FSEC%2002282018%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/_jcr_content/par/download_233169562/file.res/2.%20FSEC%2002282018%20Meeting%20Minutes.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_1617114863/file.res/Faculty%20Senate%20Executive%20committee%20Meeting%20091218%20Minutes.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/_jcr_content/par/download_1617114863/file.res/Faculty%20Senate%20Executive%20committee%20Meeting%20091218%20Minutes.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_2025085252/file.res/FS%20Meeting%20Minutes%2005142019.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate/_jcr_content/par/download_2025085252/file.res/FS%20Meeting%20Minutes%2005142019.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_1989594809/file.res/FS%20Meeting%20Minutes%20041619.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate/_jcr_content/par/download_1989594809/file.res/FS%20Meeting%20Minutes%20041619.pdf)

Although this committee had a list of members as recently as 2024-2025, the chair was non-responsive to inquiries, and it appears the committee has been inactive for some time. Its last report was made to FSEC on April 7, 2021.<sup>6</sup>

## **Recommendations**

The Bylaws Committee recommends approving the requests from the Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges Committee and the Equity and Diversity Committee.

Because the ad hoc Veterans Matters Committee has not been active for seven years and it is likely the committee has expired, the Bylaws Committee recommends formally dissolving the committee.

Because the issues under the purview of the Campus Environment and Sustainability Committee are not strictly faculty issues, but should have input for more stakeholders on campus, rather than reviving the committee, the Bylaws Committee recommends disbanding the committee and exploring options for a larger campus committee.

## **Procedure**

Article VI, Section 1(F)(5) of the Charter of the Faculty Senate states: “The Executive Committee shall serve as the Senate’s Committee on Committees. It shall write the charges, determine the size and composition, and appoint the members of all Senate committees, both standing and ad hoc. It shall also nominate members of the Voting Faculty to serve on non-Senate committees and other bodies which seek Senate representation.”

However, the list of most Standing Committees and their charges is in the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate. Section 8(C)(iii) of the Standing Orders provides that “[a]mendments shall be adopted upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the Senators present or voting in a regular or special meeting of the Senate, a quorum being present.” The Standing Orders further direct this Committee to present the proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate Secretary, who “shall transmit the proposed amendments to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee which shall forward them to the Senate along with its recommendation.”

Submitted,  
Bylaws Committee  
John Beatty, Chair

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<sup>6</sup> [https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/\\_jcr\\_content/par/download\\_1359813621/file.res/UPDATED\\_FSEC%20Meeting%20Minutes%204072021.pdf](https://www.buffalo.edu/content/www/facultysenate/meetings/minutes/faculty-senate-executive-committee-minutes/_jcr_content/par/download_1359813621/file.res/UPDATED_FSEC%20Meeting%20Minutes%204072021.pdf)

Passed (Yea: 52, Nay: 0)

Resolution 2026.4.21.2 on Renaming the Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges Committee

*Resolved*, the Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges Committee shall be renamed the Committee on Appointments, Tenure, Promotion, and Privileges and its name updated in the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate.

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Passed (Yea: 47, Nay: 2)

Resolution 2026.4.21.3 on Updating the Charge of the Equity and Diversity Committee

*Resolved*, the Equity and Diversity Committee's charge shall be updated as follows, with the same replacing its current charge in the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate:

The Faculty Senate's Equity and Diversity Committee is committed to fostering a university environment grounded in respect, dignity, and belonging for all members of the academic community. This committee shall review, report, advocate, and recommend to the Senate on issues and practices regarding all forms of bigotry, including but not limited to racism, homophobia, transphobia, ableism, ageism, sexism, and sexual violence. Its goal is to support the Faculty Senate in cultivating a culture of genuine belonging—one in which people with diverse perspectives and backgrounds are actively valued rather than marginalized to maintain the status quo. The Committee also recommends policies and practices that advance diversity in faculty hiring, retention, and promotion as well as equitable compensation and institutional support for all faculty members.

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Failed (Yea: 20, Nay: 30)

Resolution 2026.4.21.4 on Dissolving the Veteran Affairs Ad Hoc Committee

*Resolved*, the Veterans Matters ad hoc committee is hereby dissolved.

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Passed (Yea: 22, Nay: 16)

Resolution 2026.4.21.5 on Dissolving the Campus Environment and Sustainability Committee

*Resolved*, the Campus Environment and Sustainability Committee is hereby dissolved.