

University at Buffalo Faculty Senate

Resolution 2026.2.17.7

From: Bylaws Committee

Date Forwarded by FSEC to Senate: 2/10/2026

Date of First Reading: 2/17/26

Date of Second Reading: 3/31/2026

Action at Second Reading: Passed (Yea: 54, Nay: 0)

Background

The definition of the Voting Faculty in the University at Buffalo Bylaws of the Voting Faculty had been unchanged since at least 1982 until last year. In 2024, many clinical faculty who had been or might have been appointed to longer terms were given one-year contracts because of financial exigencies. This made them ineligible to be considered members of the Voting Faculty.

The relevant section of the Bylaws read:

All full-time members of the academic staff having academic rank, except instructors enrolled in a degree program or courses to be credited toward a degree program at State University of New York at Buffalo, and all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of more than one year...

Bylaws of the Voting Faculty III.1.(c).

In response, the Faculty Senate passed a resolution that, if approved by the Voting Faculty, would temporarily change the definition for one year and charge this Committee with “a thorough review of the definition of Voting Faculty.”

That resolution was approved by the Voting Faculty, and the language “appointments of more than one year” in paragraph (c) of was changed to “appointments of at least one academic year” for the 2025-2026 academic year.

This Committee has concluded its review. See Appendix 1.

Recommendations

The Bylaws Committee recommends permanently keeping the change enacted in 2024 that temporarily expanded the definition of Voting Faculty by changing the language “all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of more than one year” to “all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of at least one academic year.”

Making the change permanent will ensure that UB’s clinical faculty, many of whom have contracts of one year, will remain part of the Voting Faculty.

Although there was some concern expressed by committee members about the definition being overinclusive, inconsistent usage of qualified ranks by the various units makes it difficult to

remove all faculty members holding specific ranks to remove one group, such as postdocs, without also removing faculty members in other groups, such as visiting assistant librarians and visiting professors in the Law School, who have been included in the Voting Faculty for decades.

Moreover, the actual numbers of faculty members included under the current definition who would not have been included in 2023 under the old definition and before the contract changes appears to be very small, probably fewer than 50 out of a total of just under 2000 (see Appendix for data). Keeping the change will keep Senate representation about the same as it has been, while excluding formerly represented groups will likely cause smaller units to lose representation.

Procedure

Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed by either majority vote of the Faculty Senate or petition of ten percent of the Voting Faculty. Bylaws of the Voting Faculty art. VII, sec. 1. In either case, the Secretary “shall immediately arrange for the publication of the proposed amendment in the official University newspaper, or by other means if no such publication can be arranged,” and prepare a ballot containing the proposed amendment “which shall be delivered to the Voting Faculty through the campus mail or by other appropriate means.” Bylaws art. VII, sec. 2. If initiated by the Voting Faculty, the Secretary is directed to forward the proposal to the Faculty Senate and to commence the ballot after thirty days but before forty-five days after transmission to the Senate. Bylaws art. VII, sec. 3.

Voting may not be held between May 1 and September 30. Bylaws art. VII, sec. 4. Amendments become effective on approval “by a majority vote of the members of the Voting Faculty.” Id.

Prior to a faculty vote, proposals for amending the Bylaws should follow the normal process for Faculty Senate resolutions.

The normal procedure for resolutions adopted by the Faculty Senate is set out in Section 5 of the Standing Orders of the Faculty Senate. Resolutions should normally be drafted by an appropriate Senate committee. The committee should also draft “a suitable rationale for the resolution.” Standing Orders 5(A)(i). The committee submits the proposed resolution to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee “shall consider whether the draft resolution and its rationale have been sufficiently perfected to be submitted to the Senate.” Standing Orders 5(A)(ii). This will normally not include extensive discussion of the merits. However, if the Executive Committee believes further work is required, “it shall be resubmitted to the committee from which it came, or submitted to another committee.” Id.

After Executive Committee review, the proposed resolution is placed on the Faculty Senate agenda for two meetings, usually two successive meetings. “At the first meeting, there shall be discussion on the issues involved, but no vote. At the second meeting the resolution may be amended and/or voted on.” Standing Orders 5(A)(iii).

If, in the judgment of the Senate Chair or the Senate as a body, “the matter is urgent and requires haste,” the procedure may be accelerated. Standing Orders 5(B). “In that case, there shall be a formal ruling or motion suspending these procedures *and that ruling or motion shall appear in the Minutes.*” Id. (emphasis added).

Submitted,
John Beatty, Bylaws Committee Chair

Resolution to amend the Bylaws of the Voting Faculty to permanently change the definition of the Voting Faculty

Resolved, that the temporary definition of Voting Faculty at Article III, paragraph 1(c) of the Bylaws of the Voting Faculty changed by resolution of the Faculty Senate April 15, 2024 and subsequently approved by the Voting Faculty be made permanent.

Appendix 1: Review of the Definition of Voting Faculty

Introduction

The Committee reviewed definitions of Voting Faculty in the Policies of the Board of Trustees, and the Bylaws of the other SUNY University Centers. The Committee also reviewed the distribution of titles across the UB Voting Faculty under the current definition. This was derived from the list of Voting Faculty provided to the Elections Committee for the reapportionment it conducted this semester. The Elections Committee was not provided contract information, so the Committee was unable to determine how many faculty members are on one-year contracts or how long any faculty member has been at UB.

Definitions

SUNY Board of Trustees

The Policies of the Board of Trustees contains the following definitions:

- (i) “Academic staff.” The staff comprised of those persons having academic rank or qualified academic rank.

- (j) “Academic rank.” Rank held by those members of the professional staff having the titles of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, and assistant instructor, including geographic full-time faculty members having such titles, and rank, held by members of the professional staff, having the titles of librarian, associate librarian, senior assistant librarian, and assistant librarian. A geographic full-time faculty member is a person serving on the faculty of a medical center who is not employed on a full-time basis for the purpose of fixing compensation payable by the State but all of whose professional services and activities are conducted at the medical center or its affiliated hospitals and are available to the State on a fulltime basis for clinical and instructional purposes.

- (k) “Qualified academic rank.” Rank held by those members of the academic staff having titles of lecturer, or titles of academic rank preceded by the designations “clinical” or “visiting”, or other similar designations.

- ...

- (n) “Professional staff.” All persons occupying positions designated by the Chancellor as being in the unclassified service.

Policies of the Board of Trustees art. II sec. 1.

These definitions are included verbatim, but with the added wording “in accord with the Policies of the Board of Trustees” in Article I of the Bylaws of the Voting Faculty.

Article X of the Policies defines the Voting Faculty of each college:

§3. Voting Faculty. The voting faculty of each college shall be composed of:

- (a) The Chancellor and the chief administrative officer of the college; and
- (b) Members of the academic staff of the college having academic rank and term or continuing appointments; and
- (c) Such other officers of administration and staff members of the college as may be specified by the faculty bylaws of the college.

Under the policies of the Board of Trustees, the Voting Faculty must include all members of the professional staff on continuing or term appointments who hold the unqualified ranks of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, assistant instructor, librarian, associate librarian, senior assistant librarian, and assistant librarian. The Bylaws of the Voting Faculty does this using the language “All full-time members of the academic staff having academic rank, except instructors enrolled in a degree program or courses to be credited toward a degree program at State University of New York at Buffalo” in Article III, Section 1, Paragraph (c).

The question of which faculty members in qualified titles (lecturer or titles of academic rank preceded by “clinical,” “visiting,” or similar designations) are included in the Voting Faculty of each college is left to the colleges. The approaches of the four university centers are not uniform.

University at Buffalo

From at least 1982 until 2024, Article III of the UB Bylaws of the Voting Faculty defined the membership of the Voting Faculty as follows.

1. MEMBERSHIP OF THE VOTING FACULTY. The membership of the Voting Faculty shall consist of the following:
 - (a) The Chancellor
 - (b) The President;
 - (c) All full-time members of the academic staff having academic rank, except instructors enrolled in a degree program or courses to be credited toward a degree program at State University of New York at Buffalo, and all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of more than one year;
 - (d) The University Vice Presidents; Deans of the various Faculties and Schools; the Dean of Continuing Education; the Director of Admissions and Records; the Director of the University Libraries; the Director of the Summer

Session; the Dean of the Colleges; and such other administrative officers as shall be recommended from time to time by the President and approved by a legislative body established by the Voting Faculty;

(e) Members of the full-time non-teaching professional staff who shall be recommended from time to time by the President or the elected officers of the Voting Faculty and approved by a legislative body established by the Voting Faculty.

In 2024, paragraph (c) was temporarily changed from “and all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of *more than* one year” to “and all full-time members of the academic staff having qualified academic rank and serving on appointments of at *least one* year” (emphasis added).

Stony Brook University

Stony Brook and Albany both have a University Senate model. One body represents faculty, professional staff, and students.

Stony Brook’s University Senate By-Laws (<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/univ-senate/senate/key-senate-documents/docs/bylaws-2014.php>) do not define “voting faculty.” Faculty is defined as, “All full-time members of the staff in positions that carry designation of academic rank including library staff.”

The Constitution (<https://www.stonybrook.edu/commcms/univ-senate/senate/key-senate-documents/docs/constitution.php>) sets the membership of the University Senate. The faculty members include one department representative for each department of six or more full-time faculty, a number of at-large representatives of major campus governance units (50% of the number of department representatives), and the immediate Past President. It also includes the President, Provost, Vice Presidents, Vice Provosts, and Deans as non-voting members.

The Constitution also sets the numbers of undergraduate students (10% of voting faculty), graduate students (8% of voting faculty), and professional staff (15% of voting faculty). Voting faculty here appears to mean the voting members of the faculty serving on the University Senate.

The University at Albany

Albany also has a University Senate, but takes a different approach from Stony Brook. Albany’s Faculty Bylaws (https://livealbany.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/web_university-senate/EdjhbgwjJs5Ir6ZcTFfDCzYBJABK7gZk4Kk486I-3i3rZg?e=ZZWP3q) define professional staff as part of the Voting Faculty.

1.6 Teaching Faculty. Members of the Academic Staff, as specified in The Policies of the Board of Trustees, “comprised of those persons having academic rank or qualified academic rank.”

1.7 Professional Faculty. Employees as specified in The Policies of the Board of Trustees, as professional staff, "occupying positions designated by the

Chancellor as being in the unclassified service,” who do not hold academic or qualified academic rank.

1.8 Academic Rank. Rank held by those members of the Academic Staff having the titles of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, and Instructor and those having the title of Librarian, Associate Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Assistant Librarian.

1.9 Qualified Academic Rank. Rank held by those members of the Academic Staff having the title of Lecturer, or titles of academic rank preceded by the designation "visiting" or other similar designation, in accord with The Policies of the Board of Trustees.

1.10 The Faculty. The Faculty of the University consists of the Chancellor of the State University of New York; the President of the University; Teaching Faculty; emeriti; and Professional Faculty.

1.11 Voting Faculty. Voting faculty consists of:

1.11.1 The Chancellor

1.11.2 The President

1.11.3 All full-time members of the Teaching Faculty, except: emeriti; instructors enrolled in degree programs of the University; and individuals holding appointments for less than one academic year

1.11.4 All full-time Professional Faculty except individuals holding appointments for less than one academic year.

The Bylaws contain provisions for semi-annual meetings of the Voting Faculty in addition to establishing the Senate.

Like Stony Brook, Article II of the Bylaws declare various administrators as *ex officio* non-voting members of the Senate. It also names the presidents of the Undergraduate and Graduate Student Associations and the chair of the Student Association Senate as *ex officio* voting members. There are also provisions for several at-large senators and 15 student senators.

Binghamton University

Like UB, Binghamton’s Senate only includes faculty. Its Faculty Bylaws (https://www.binghamton.edu/faculty-senate/docs/bylaws-may-2025_1.pdf) define Faculty and Voting Faculty as follows.

d. Faculty.

1) The Chancellor, the President, and all members of the academic staff of the State University of New York at Binghamton having academic rank or qualified academic rank. (Approved by faculty in mail ballot in November

1993) For the purposes of these Bylaws, a Bartle Professor shall be considered to retain academic rank in the title held at the time of appointment as Bartle Professor. (Approved by faculty in mail ballot in April 1997)

2) Members emeriti.

e. **Voting Faculty.** The Chancellor, the President, the Provost, and all faculty members having academic rank (Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Instructor, Librarian, Associate Librarian, Senior Assistant Librarian, and Assistant Librarian) and term or continuing appointment - the foregoing includes administrative appointees with concurrent academic rank and Bartle Professors - and all clinical faculty members at the associate rank or higher who have served as qualified academic rank faculty for at least three years (Approved by faculty May 2017). All such persons holding academic or clinical rank who meet the criteria for voting faculty and have temporary academic appointments due to nonimmigrant work status (Temporary Work Authorization) shall also be considered Voting Faculty (Approved by faculty May 2025). Other persons having temporary academic appointments or qualified academic rank may be included in the Voting Faculty upon the recommendation of the appropriate academic units and with the approval of the Provost.

Comparison

In size, UB and Stony Brook are the most similar, while Binghamton and Albany are similar to each other. Binghamton is the larger of the two by student population. Both UB and Stony Brook have roughly 25-40% more undergraduates than Binghamton. Stony Brook has about twice the number of graduate students and UB has about three times as many. UB has around three times the academic staff as Binghamton and Stony Brook has about four times as many. Both UB and Stony Brook have medical schools.

Albany has the most open membership in its Voting Faculty and Senate. Pretty much all full-time faculty and professional staff have voting rights, and faculty and professional staff have equal representation. Students have a fraction of the representation. At Stony Brook pretty much all full-time faculty and professional staff have voting rights. However, the professional staff's representatives number only fifteen percent of the Senate, three percent less than the student representation.

UB and Binghamton both have separate senate models. Faculty are represented by a faculty senate and professional staff and students each have their own representative bodies. Of the two, membership in the Voting Faculty has historically been more open at UB. Until 2024, any faculty member holding qualified rank on a contract of more than one year was included. Although some departments start new faculty members at one year and then increase contract length, there are many occasions where faculty members are initially appointed for more than one year. Any faculty member in that situation was immediately included in the Voting Faculty. At Binghamton, faculty members with clinical rank at the associate level or higher need three

years of service before being given voting rights. Any faculty members holding any other qualified rank (e.g., research or visiting) have to be voted in.

Faculty Rank Breakdown

Because this is a reapportionment year, the Elections Committee was provided with a spreadsheet containing all of the members of the Voting Faculty as currently defined. The Elections Committee shared this spreadsheet with the Chair of this Committee. The following breakdowns were generated by the Chair.

The spreadsheet does not contain contract information, so it is impossible to determine exactly how many members of the faculty have been or would be affected by the change in language between “at least one year” and “more than one year” in the definition of Voting Faculty. The best we can do is see how many members of the faculty hold qualified rank, and so could conceivably be affected by the change.

Table 1: Number of faculty by department

Unit	n
Chief Information Officer	1
College of Arts and Sciences	590
Division of Athletics	1
Finance and Administration	1
Graduate School of Education	83
Health Sciences	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	469
President	1
Provost	76
Research and Economic Development	4
School of Architecture and Planning	50
School of Dental Medicine	78
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	264
School of Law	52
School of Management	89
School of Nursing	35
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	52
School of Public Health and Health Professions	106
School of Social Work	38
Student Life	4
University Advancement	1
University Communications	1

Table 1 contains the number of Voting Faculty in each unit of the University. For purposes of Senate representation, there are three definitions of an electoral unit: (1) at least ten members of

the Voting Faculty must hold a primary appointment in the unit and that unit must be headed by a Dean; (2) the University Libraries; (3) the Institutional/General unit, which is composed of all members of the Voting Faculty not covered by (1) or (2). Charter of the Faculty Senate art. IV sec. 1.

University Libraries faculty and EOC faculty are assigned to Provost. They are distinguished by their titles.

Table 2 shows the number of Voting Faculty members at each rank, qualified and unqualified, and the percentage of the total Voting Faculty in each title. The titles are simplified from the full state titles. Ten-month, twelve-month, and other types of faculty at the same rank are gathered together in this table.

Table 2: Number of Voting Faculty in each broad rank

title	n	percentage
Assistant Professor	286	14.32%
Associate Librarian	21	1.05%
Associate Professor	405	20.28%
Associate Provost	1	0.05%
Clinical Assistant Professor	271	13.57%
Clinical Associate Professor	182	9.11%
Clinical Instructor	15	0.75%
Clinical Professor	66	3.30%
Dean	15	0.75%
Director of Libraries	1	0.05%
Distinguished Librarian	1	0.05%
Distinguished Professor	60	3.00%
Distinguished Service Professor	1	0.05%
Distinguished Teaching Professor	4	0.20%
Instructor	7	0.35%
Lecturer	97	4.86%
Librarian	6	0.30%
President	1	0.05%
Professor	453	22.68%
Research Assistant Professor	20	1.00%
Research Associate Professor	16	0.80%
Research Professor	7	0.35%
Senior Assistant Librarian	17	0.85%
Staff Associate	1	0.05%
Vice President	6	0.30%
Visiting Assistant Librarian	10	0.50%
Visiting Assistant Professor	17	0.85%
Visiting Associate Professor	8	0.40%

Visiting Instructor	1	0.05%
Visiting Senior Assistant Librarian	1	0.05%

Qualified Titles

The total number of Voting Faculty in qualified titles is 711, broken down as follows:

Clinical: 534

Lecturer: 97

Research: 43

Visiting: 37

That 711 total represents 35.6% of the Voting Faculty.

Of the Clinical faculty, two-thirds (356) are in the health sciences: 234 in the Jacobs School, 46 in the School of Public Health and Health Professions, 32 are in the School of Dental Medicine, 23 in the School of Nursing, 21 in the School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Most of the remaining 178 are in the College of Arts and Sciences (103). The others are divided between most of the other units, with the largest number in the School of Management (30).

More than half of faculty with the title of Lecturer are in the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (58). There are also 17 in Law and 16 in the College of Arts and Sciences.

More than half of the Research faculty (25) are in the Jacobs School. The others are mostly in the other health science units and the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.

Visiting faculty members are mostly in the College of Arts and Sciences (15), the University Libraries (11), and the School of Law (6).

Table 3 shows the full breakdown of the number of faculty members in each title in each unit.

Table 3: Faculty by unit and full title

Unit	StateTitle	n
Chief Information Officer	VICE PRESIDENT	1
College of Arts and Sciences	ASSO PROF 10	166
College of Arts and Sciences	ASST PROF 10	95
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	22
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	10
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF 10	58
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF 12	8
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN PROF 10	4
College of Arts and Sciences	CLIN PROF 12	1
College of Arts and Sciences	DEAN	1
College of Arts and Sciences	DSTG PROF 10	13
College of Arts and Sciences	DSTG TCHG PROF 10	1

Unit	StateTitle	n
College of Arts and Sciences	LECT 10	16
College of Arts and Sciences	LECT 12	1
College of Arts and Sciences	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	177
College of Arts and Sciences	RES ASSO PROF 10	1
College of Arts and Sciences	RES ASST PROF 10	1
College of Arts and Sciences	VISIT ASSOC PROF 12M	1
College of Arts and Sciences	VISIT ASST PROF 12M	1
College of Arts and Sciences	VSTNG ASSO PROF 10M	2
College of Arts and Sciences	VSTNG ASST PROF 10M	10
College of Arts and Sciences	VSTNG INST 10M	1
Division of Athletics	LECT 12	1
Finance and Administration	VICE PRESIDENT	1
Graduate School of Education	ASSO PROF 10	22
Graduate School of Education	ASST PROF 10	23
Graduate School of Education	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	4
Graduate School of Education	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	2
Graduate School of Education	CLIN ASST PROF 10	4
Graduate School of Education	CLIN ASST PROF 12	2
Graduate School of Education	CLIN PROF 10	4
Graduate School of Education	DEAN (EDUCATION)	1
Graduate School of Education	DSTG PROF 10	1
Graduate School of Education	LECT 12	1
Graduate School of Education	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	19
Health Sciences	CLIN PROF HS	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	ASSO PROF GFT	16
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	ASSO PROF HS	40
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	ASST PROF 12	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	ASST PROF GFT	7
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	ASST PROF HS	32
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN ASSO PROF GFT	83
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN ASSO PROF HS	4
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF 10	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF GFT	98
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF HS	6
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN INST 10	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN INST 12	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN INST HS	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN PROF GFT	36
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	CLIN PROF HS	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DEAN (MEDICINE)	1

Unit	StateTitle	n
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DSTG PROF (GFT)	9
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DSTG PROF (HS)	4
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DSTG PROF 12	4
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DSTG SVC PROF (HS)	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	DSTG TCHG PROF 12	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	INSTRUCTOR (HS)	3
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	LECTURER (HS)	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	PROF CH MED	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	PROF CH MED GFT	4
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	PROF CHMN MED	3
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	PROFESSOR (GFT)	36
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	PROFESSOR (HS)	43
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES ASSO PROF 12	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES ASSO PROF GFT	1
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES ASSO PROF HS	8
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES ASST PROF GFT	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES ASST PROF HS	8
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES PROF GFT	2
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	RES PROF HS	3
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	VISIT ASST PROF 12M	1
President	PRESIDENT	1
Provost	ASSOC PROF FOR EOC 10	6
Provost	ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN	21
Provost	ASSOCIATE PROVOST	1
Provost	ASST PROF FOR EOC 10	3
Provost	CLIN INST 10	1
Provost	CLIN INST 12	1
Provost	DEAN GRAD STD	1
Provost	DEAN UNGRD STD	1
Provost	DIR LIB	1
Provost	DISTINGUISHED LIBRAR	1
Provost	INSTRUCTOR FOR EOC 12	4
Provost	LIBRARIAN	6
Provost	SR ASST LIBR	17
Provost	STAFF ASSOCIATE	1
Provost	VISIT ASSNT LIBRARIAN	10
Provost	VISIT SR ASST LIBRARN	1
Research and Economic Development	PROFESSOR 12 MONTHS	1
Research and Economic Development	RES ASSO PROF 12	1
Research and Economic Development	RES ASST PROF 12	1

Unit	StateTitle	n
Research and Economic Development	VP RES	1
School of Architecture and Planning	ASSO PROF 10	15
School of Architecture and Planning	ASST PROF 10	9
School of Architecture and Planning	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	2
School of Architecture and Planning	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	1
School of Architecture and Planning	CLIN ASST PROF 10	5
School of Architecture and Planning	CLIN ASST PROF 12	3
School of Architecture and Planning	DEAN ARCH	1
School of Architecture and Planning	DSTG PROF 10	3
School of Architecture and Planning	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	9
School of Architecture and Planning	RES ASST PROF 12	2
School of Dental Medicine	ASSO PROF HS	12
School of Dental Medicine	ASST PROF HS	13
School of Dental Medicine	CLIN ASSO PROF HS	16
School of Dental Medicine	CLIN ASST PROF GFT	1
School of Dental Medicine	CLIN ASST PROF HS	11
School of Dental Medicine	CLIN INST HS	1
School of Dental Medicine	CLIN PROF HS	3
School of Dental Medicine	DEAN (DENTISTRY)	1
School of Dental Medicine	DSTG PROF (HS)	1
School of Dental Medicine	PROFESSOR (HS)	19
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	ASSO PROF 10	60
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	ASST PROF 10	55
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	DEAN (ENGINEERING)	1
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	DSTG PROF 10	15
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	DSTG TCHG PROF 10	2
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	LECT 10	49
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	LECT 12	9
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	64
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	RES ASSO PROF 10	1
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	RES ASSO PROF 12	2
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	RES ASST PROF 10	1
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	RES ASST PROF 12	4
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	VSTNG ASST PROF 10M	1
School of Law	ASSO PROF LAW	4
School of Law	CLIN PROF 10	1
School of Law	DEAN	1
School of Law	DSTG PROF 10	4
School of Law	LECT 12	17
School of Law	PROFESSOR (LAW)	19

Unit	StateTitle	n
School of Law	VSTNG ASSO PROF 10M	5
School of Law	VSTNG ASST PROF 10M	1
School of Management	ASSO PROF 10	24
School of Management	ASST PROF 10	17
School of Management	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	6
School of Management	CLIN ASST PROF 10	21
School of Management	CLIN PROF 10	3
School of Management	DEAN (BUSINESS)	1
School of Management	DSTG PROF 10	1
School of Management	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	14
School of Management	VSTNG ASST PROF 10M	2
School of Nursing	ASSO PROF 10	4
School of Nursing	ASST PROF 10	2
School of Nursing	ASST PROF 12	1
School of Nursing	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	1
School of Nursing	CLIN ASSO PROF HS	2
School of Nursing	CLIN ASST PROF 12	3
School of Nursing	CLIN ASST PROF HS	9
School of Nursing	CLIN INST HS	4
School of Nursing	CLIN PROF 10	2
School of Nursing	CLIN PROF HS	2
School of Nursing	DEAN (NURSING)	1
School of Nursing	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	1
School of Nursing	PROFESSOR 12 MONTHS	1
School of Nursing	PROFESSOR (HS)	1
School of Nursing	RES ASSO PROF 12	1
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	ASSO PROF 12	4
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	ASST PROF 12	3
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	11
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	CLIN ASST PROF 12	6
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	CLIN PROF 12	4
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	DEAN (PHARMACY)	1
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	DSTG PROF 12	2
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	PROFESSOR 12 MONTHS	19
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	RES PROF 12	1
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	VISIT ASST PROF 12M	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASSO PROF 10	4
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASSO PROF 12	4
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASSO PROF HS	8
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASST PROF 10	6

Unit	StateTitle	n
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASST PROF 12	6
School of Public Health and Health Professions	ASST PROF HS	9
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	6
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	6
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN ASST PROF 10	19
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN ASST PROF 12	9
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN INST 10	2
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN INST 12	2
School of Public Health and Health Professions	CLIN PROF 10	2
School of Public Health and Health Professions	DEAN PUB HTH&HTH P	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	DSTG PROF (HS)	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	DSTG PROF 10	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	DSTG PROF 12	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	LECT 12	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	PROF CH HS	2
School of Public Health and Health Professions	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	4
School of Public Health and Health Professions	PROFESSOR 12 MONTHS	4
School of Public Health and Health Professions	PROFESSOR (HS)	6
School of Public Health and Health Professions	RES ASST PROF HS	1
School of Public Health and Health Professions	RES PROF HS	1
School of Social Work	ASSO PROF 10	15
School of Social Work	ASSO PROF 12	1
School of Social Work	ASST PROF 10	4
School of Social Work	CLIN ASSO PROF 10	5
School of Social Work	CLIN ASSO PROF 12	1
School of Social Work	CLIN ASST PROF 10	3
School of Social Work	CLIN ASST PROF 12	1
School of Social Work	CLIN PROF 10	2
School of Social Work	DEAN (SOCIAL WELFARE)	1
School of Social Work	PROFESSOR 10 MONTHS	4
School of Social Work	PROFESSOR 12 MONTHS	1
Student Life	CLIN ASST PROF HS	2
Student Life	DEAN OF STUDENTS	1
Student Life	VP STDNT AFF	1
University Advancement	VICE PRESIDENT	1
University Communications	VICE PRESIDENT	1

Table 4: Reapportionment comparison

Unit	Faculty 2015	% faculty	Faculty 2020	% faculty	Faculty 2025	% faculty
College of Arts & Sciences	512	30%	514	31%	590	30%
Graduate School of Education	77	5%	66	4%	83	4%
Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	438	26%	429	26%	469	24%
School of Architecture & Planning	44	3%	36	2%	50	3%
School of Dental Medicine	70	4%	66	4%	78	4%
School of Engineering and Applied Sciences	181	11%	233	14%	264	13%
School of Law	56	3%	38	2%	52	3%
School of Management	83	5%	71	4%	89	5%
School of Nursing	39	2%	37	2%	35	2%
School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences	42	2%	44	3%	52	3%
School of Public Health and Health Professions	71	4%	77	5%	106	5%
School of Social Work	30	2%	33	2%	38	2%
University Libraries	44	3%	36	2%	57	3%
Totals	1687		1680		1963	

Table 4 shows the number of faculty in each unit in the years of the last three reapportionments. The 2015 and 2020 columns are taken from the Elections Committee reapportionment presentation in 2020. The 2025 columns are unofficial numbers from the spreadsheet provided to the Elections Committee. The Institutional/General unit was missing from the 2020 presentation, so is not represented here. It is, however, the smallest unit and so its omission will not drastically affect the percentage calculations for the other units.

Analysis

Concerns raised in the Committee discussions over keeping the expanded definition were mostly in the realm of being overinclusive. Specific groups of concern included postdocs, clinical faculty hired for one year without expectation of further years, and true visiting faculty who are only at UB for one year. Graduate students who have teaching responsibilities as part of their program were already and continue to be excluded from the Voting Faculty.

Postdocs would have only been included under the old definition if they were on a multi-year contract. They are included in the current definition if they are appointed as a Visiting Assistant

Professor, as they are in some departments of the College of Arts and Sciences. While removing all faculty members with visiting titles would remove both postdocs and true visitors, it would also adversely affect other faculty members who were included in the Voting Faculty under the previous definition.

The use of visiting faculty titles between units is inconsistent. Some departments in the College of Arts and Sciences appoint postdocs as Visiting Assistant Professors because it looks good on their CVs. But not every department appoints postdocs this way. And not every department appoints strictly temporary faculty members to visiting titles. The University Libraries hires visiting librarians for specific projects. They are hired for the duration of the project with the hope that they can eventually become permanent. In the past many visiting librarians have moved into a permanent position. Other units appoint long-term faculty members under visiting titles for other reasons, which may include an advanced tenure timeline.

Under the prior definition, single-year clinical faculty members were not included. One had to be on a multi-year contract to be included in the Voting Faculty. The definition was changed last year specifically to bring certain faculty formerly on longer contracts back into the Voting Faculty. At this point, there is no reasonable data point that can be used to assess which clinical faculty members are on one-year contracts because of UB's financial concerns and which are truly only expected to be here for a single year.

A possible approach would be to adopt Binghamton's definition, which includes only clinical faculty at the associate level or higher who have served for three years. But adopting Binghamton's more restrictive definition would immediately remove at least 463 faculty members in research, visiting, Lecturer, Clinical Assistant Professor and other disqualified ranks. It would also remove any Clinical Associate Professors or Clinical Professors with less than three years of service. That represents at least twenty-three percent of the Voting Faculty.

It would disproportionately affect the School of Nursing (17 faculty members or 48.5% of its current Voting Faculty), the School of Law (23 faculty members or 44%), the School of Public Health and Health Professions (35 faculty members or 33%), and the Jacobs School (148 faculty members or 31.5%).

Any rank exclusion would affect different units disproportionately. As with visiting titles, units use other ranks inconsistently. In the health sciences, clinical faculty members are often running a lab. This is, however, not necessarily the case in other units. In other units, clinical titles are often used for professors of practice or other similar positions. Lecturers may be hired for different reasons and with different expectations. In law schools, legal writing faculty are rarely on the tenure track, though many stay at the same school for decades. That is true here. Here, the legal writing faculty are all Lecturers. It is difficult to use titles to carve out specific small groups without removing others from the Voting Faculty.

Another approach could be to use only the three-year timeline for all faculty holding qualified rank. That would screen out the postdocs and true visiting faculty. It would also remove faculty members who historically would have been included in the Voting Faculty earlier. While we have not found supporting documents in the record stating why the definition was originally

adopted, the UB approach seems to have been intentionally more broad than Binghamton's. This is likely related to the differences in size and other characteristics. While UB's definition is not quite as inclusive as Stony Brook's, it is much closer than it is to Binghamton's.

Finally, before any more restrictive definition is imposed, it would be helpful to understand how many faculty members would be included or excluded by a change in the definition.

Although we do not know the number of faculty members currently on one-year contracts or the number of faculty members on one-year contracts before 2024, in Table 4 we can see the change in faculty members across units in 2020 under the old definition and 2025 under the expanded definition. There has been growth across the University since 2020 so the increase in numbers because of hiring and the increase in numbers because of the inclusion of all faculty in qualified ranks on one-year contracts is combined.

Even with this combination, the relative size of units has not changed much. The largest unit, CAS, had the largest increase by numbers but is one percent smaller as a percentage of total UB faculty. Between 2015 and 2020, it increased from 30% to 31% with a gain of two faculty members because of losses in other units. Those units have regained faculty members and so CAS dropped one percent. The Jacobs School also had a large increase in numbers (40) but a two percent drop. The School of Engineering and Applied Sciences also had an increase of over 30 members but a one percent drop. But these are all due to one percent increases in smaller units. All of those smaller units lost members between 2015 and 2020 and bounced back.

While we can't, with the information we have, know the exact numbers of faculty members who fit under the current and former definitions of Voting Faculty, we can see that under the change in definition, the percentages and, therefore, the representation on the Senate for the various units is largely the same. Any units that gained a percentage point (and a Senate seat) with this reapportionment lost the same in the 2020 reapportionment.

While there could be some harm in being overinclusive, the actual numbers of people included in any one group of concern is small. There are only 37 visiting faculty members at UB, less than two percent of the overall Voting Faculty. Of those, almost half are in two units that often use visiting titles for longer-term faculty members. At most, there are eleven postdocs in the College of Arts and Sciences included in the Voting Faculty. This is less than two percent of the CAS faculty, not nearly enough to further increase the representation of the largest unit in the Senate. Removing all visiting faculty, however, might cause two other units to lose a Senator, further increasing representation of CAS in the Senate.

Similarly, there has not been a large swing in numbers with the change from "more than one year" to "at least one year." While increasing the requirement to three years of service would remove faculty members who will only be here for a single year from the ranks of the Voting Faculty, there do not appear to be that many of them. We do not know how that change would affect the numbers, but we can see that the expansion has not increased the number of total Voting Faculty nor the percentage of Voting Faculty of each unit by very much.