

# Report Demonstrating Bylaws Compliance of the Slate of Nominees for the 2026-2027 University Senate Committees

## Prepared by the 2025-2026 Subcommittee on Nominations

*A supporting document for motion 2526-CON.002.0 at the  
April 24, 2026 meeting of the 2026-2027 University Senate*

### **Introduction**

The purpose of this report is to demonstrate that the slate of nominees prepared for the committees of the 2025-2026 University Senate is in compliance with the membership requirements articulated in the current University Senate Bylaws. The format of this report will be to cite each relevant bylaw and then provide a statement indicating how the slate of nominees complies with the bylaw. The committees may be referenced by the following acronyms within this report.

- Academic Policy Committee (APC)
- Belonging and Inclusion Policy Committee (BIPC)
- Executive Committee of the University Senate (ECUS)
- Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC)
- Resources, Planning, and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC)
- Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC)

### **Membership of the 2025-2026 Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN)**

*V.Section 1.D.1. Composition. The Subcommittee on Nominations is a subcommittee of the Executive Committee whose members and chair are appointed by the Executive Committee.*

*V.Section 1.D.1.a. Minimal. The membership of the Subcommittee on Nominations shall include, but not be limited to the Executive Committee, the Standing Committee Chairs, the Student Government Association President and the Staff Council Chair.*

*V.Section 1.D.1.b. Secretary. The Secretary of the Executive Committee shall serve as the Secretary of the Subcommittee on Nominations.*

The 2025-2026 Executive Committee nominated Brad Fowler as Chair of the 2026-2027 Subcommittee on Nominations. Alex Blazer has been nominated as ECUS Secretary and, if elected, will also serve as SCoN Secretary.

- **SCoN Officers:** Brad Fowler (Chair), Alex Blazer (Secretary)
- **SCoN Membership:**
  - Members of ECUS 2026-2027 not serving as officers of this committee:
    - University President Cathy Cox
    - Provost Holley Roberts
    - Robert Sumowski (CoE)
    - Sara Jordan (Library)
    - Stephanie Jett (CoAS)
    - Joyce Norris-Taylor (CoHS)
  - Standing Committee Chairs:
    - TBD (APC)

- TBD (BIPC)
- TBD (FAPC)
- TBD (RPIPC)
- TBD (SAPC)
- Student Government Association President: Sam Samiya
- Staff Council Chair: Kimberly Scott

## **Compliance Requirements**

*II. Section 4.A. Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect. The University Senate shall have a Presiding Officer, who presides at all meetings of the University Senate, and a Presiding Officer Elect, who shall assume the position of Presiding Officer the following year. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Presiding Officer or Presiding Officer Elect. The election of the Presiding Officer Elect shall proceed as follows. At the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor. Should this result in more than one nominee for Presiding Officer Elect, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Presiding Officer Elect. The terms of service for the Presiding Officer and Presiding Officer Elect shall begin with the adjournment of this spring organizational meeting, and shall end when a successor assumes office.*

Joyce Norris-Taylor, an elected faculty senator from the College of Health Sciences, will serve as Presiding Officer of the 2026-2027 University Senate.

Brad Fowler, an elected faculty senator from the College of Business & Technology, has been nominated by 2025-2026 ECUS to serve as Presiding Officer Elect of the 2026-2027 University Senate.

*II. Section 4.B. Secretary. The University Senate shall elect a Secretary at its spring organizational meeting who shall be responsible for keeping minutes at all meetings of the University Senate. Only elected faculty senators are eligible to serve as Secretary. The election of the Secretary of the University Senate shall proceed as follows. At the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate one elected faculty senator from the incoming University Senate. The Presiding Officer at the spring organizational meeting shall then call for other nominations from the floor. Should this result in more than one nominee for Secretary, all members of the incoming University Senate shall vote by secret ballot. The nominee receiving the most votes shall be the Secretary. The term of service of the Secretary shall begin at the call to order of the first meeting of the University Senate following the spring organizational meeting at which the Secretary is elected, and shall end when a successor assumes office.*

Alex Blazer, an elected faculty senator from the College of Arts and Sciences, has been nominated to serve as Secretary of the 2026-2027 University Senate.

*IV. Section 4. COMMITTEE SERVICE AND VOTING. All members of the University Senate shall have at least one University Senate committee assignment. Faculty, staff, administrators and students who are not members of the University Senate may be nominated to University Senate committees if the Subcommittee on Nominations deems that appropriate. Committee members who are not members of the University Senate shall be afforded all rights of committee membership, including voting unless explicitly designated as a*

*non-voting member of the committee in these bylaws, but shall have none of these rights in the University Senate.*

The committee assignments for all university senators are also provided below.

*V.Section1.A. Composition. The Executive Committee of the University Senate (or equivalently the Executive Committee) shall have no fewer than seven (7) but no more than ten (10) members distributed as follows: one (1) member who is the University President, one (1) member who is the Chief Academic Officer, one (1) member who is the Presiding Officer of the University Senate, one (1) member who is the Presiding Officer Elect of the University Senate, one (1) member who is the Secretary of the University Senate, and up to five (5) additional members as specified in V.Section1.A.1 and V.Section.1.A.2. The Chair of the Executive Committee shall be the Presiding Officer of the University Senate. The Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee shall be the Presiding Officer Elect of the University Senate. The Secretary of the Executive Committee shall be the Secretary of the University Senate.*

President Cathy Cox and Provost Holley Roberts are named to ECUS. The University Senate Officers, specifically the Presiding Officer (Joyce Norris-Taylor – elected faculty senator, CoHS), the Presiding Officer Elect nominee (Brad Fowler– elected faculty senator, CoBT), and the University Senate Secretary nominee (Alex Blazer – elected faculty senator, CoAS) are named to ECUS.

*V.Section1.A.1. Academic Unit Representation. For each college or the library not represented among the three (3) University Senate Officers serving on the committee, the outgoing Subcommittee on Nominations shall nominate an incoming elected faculty senator from that academic unit to serve on the Executive Committee. This process shall never result in more than four additional members to the Executive Committee.*

This bylaw requires the addition of elected faculty senators representing CoE, and the Library to be named to ECUS. This requirement is met by nominating Rob Sumowski (elected faculty senator-CoE) and Sara Jordan (elected faculty senator - Library).

*V.Section1.A.2. Chair Emeritus. Should the Chair of the outgoing Executive Committee not be an elected faculty senator on the incoming Executive Committee, the Chair of the outgoing Executive Committee shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member of the incoming Executive Committee to assist with continuity for the following academic year.*

The Chair of the 2025-2026 Executive Committee was Stephanie Jett (elected faculty senator-CoAS), and she is nominated to serve on the 2026-2027 Executive Committee (see V.Section1.A).

*V.Section1.D.2.e. Compliance Report. The Subcommittee shall prepare a report that demonstrates that the composition of all committees complies with the requirements of these bylaws. Such a report shall be submitted to the Executive Committee when the initial committee recommendations are made and any time that changes are proposed to committee membership.*

The report you are reading is respectfully submitted for compliance with this requirement.

*V.Section2.A.2. Composition. There shall be no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members on each standing committee identified in a manner specified in V.Section2.C. There shall be no fewer than seven (7) university senators on each standing committee.*

There are twelve to thirteen members on each of the standing committees and the number behind the committee acronym indicates the number of members that are University Senators. Note that each University Senator count is at least seven: APC (8), BIPC (7), FAPC (7), RPIPC (7), SAPC (8).

*II.Section1.A.5. Presidential Appointees The five (5) Presidential Appointees are appointed annually, one appointee to each of the standing committees in V.Section2.C, by the University President after consultation with the Executive Committee. The terms of service of such an appointee shall begin with the call to order of the spring organizational meeting of the University Senate and shall continue until a successor assumes office. Such appointments are renewable and are typically named only after the remaining membership of the University Senate is determined, but shall be identified no later than April 7 of the calendar year in which their term of service begins. All students, staff, faculty, and administrators of the university are eligible to serve as Presidential Appointees. The results of these appointments shall be announced as indicated in III.Section3.*

The Presidential Appointees are specified below as part of the membership for each of the standing committees APC, BIPC, FAPC, SAPC, and RPIPC.

*V.Section2.C.1.a. Membership. The **Academic Policy Committee** shall have no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows: no fewer than nine (9) and no more than eleven (11) members selected from the Corps of Instruction faculty, at least seven (7) of whom are elected faculty senators, one (1) member who is the Chief Academic Officer or an individual appointed by the Chief Academic Officer to serve as a designee in compliance with V.Section2.C, and one (1) member appointed by the University President in compliance with II.Section1.A.5.*

Appointees and Designees (2)

1. TBD, Chief Academic Officer Designee
2. TBD, Presidential Appointee

Elected Faculty Senators (8) **bylaws require at least seven**

1. John Swinton, CoBT
2. Charles Ubah, CoAS
3. Arnab Sengupta, CoAS
4. Hasitha Mahabaduge, CoAS
5. Amelia Malcom, CoHS
6. Nathan Bledsole, CoAS
7. Bekir Mugayitoglu, CoE
8. Jason Lindsay, CoAS

Corps of Instruction Faculty (2)

1. Olha Osobov, CoE
2. Marcia Henry, CoHS

*V.Section2.C.2.a. Membership. The **Belonging and Inclusion Policy Committee** shall have exactly thirteen (13) members distributed as follows: seven (7) members selected from the Corps of Instruction faculty, at least six (6) of whom are elected faculty senators, one (1) member who is the Director of the Office of Inclusion & Belonging or an individual appointed by the Director of the Office of Inclusion & Belonging as a designee in compliance with V.Section2.C, one (1) member who is the Director of Human Resources or an individual appointed by the Director of Human Resources to serve as a designee, one (1) member who is the Director of Admissions or an individual appointed by the Director of Admissions to serve as a*

*designee, one (1) member who is a staff member appointed by a process determined by Staff Council, one (1) member who is a student appointed by a process determined by the Student Government Association, and one (1) member appointed by the University President in compliance with II.Section1.A.5.*

Appointees and Designees (6)

1. Jasmine Kelly, Office of Community Engagement and Belonging
2. Eric Johansen, HR Designee
3. TBD, Executive Director of Admissions
4. Kimberly Scott, Staff Council Appointee
5. Jane Walmsley, Student Government Association Appointee
6. TBD, Presidential Appointee

Elected Faculty Senators (6) **bylaws require at least 6**

1. Hedwig "Hedy" Fraunhofer, CoAS
2. Austin Parks, CoHS
3. Peter Rosado, CoAS
4. Laura Newbern, CoAS
5. David Johnson, CoAS
6. Frank Richardson, CoBT
7. Rachel Bray, CoE

Corps of Instruction Faculty (1)

1. Emuesiri Oduaran, CoBT

*V.Section2.C.2.a. Membership. The **Faculty Affairs Policy Committee** shall have no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows: no fewer than nine (9) and no more than eleven (11) members selected from the Corps of Instruction faculty, at least seven (7) of whom are elected faculty senators, one (1) member who is the Chief Academic Officer or an individual appointed by the Chief Academic Officer to serve as a designee in compliance with V.Section2.C, and one (1) member appointed by the University President in compliance with II.Section1.A.5.*

Appointee and Designee (2)

1. TBD, Chief Academic Officer Designee
2. TBD, Presidential Appointee

Elected Faculty Senators (7) **bylaws require at least seven**

1. Jennifer Flory, CoAS
2. Amy Sumpter, CoAS
3. Sabrina Hom, CoAS
4. Christine Mutiti, CoAS
5. Suzanna Roman-Oliver, CoE
6. Nicholas Creel, CoBT
7. Tormechi Chambliss, CoHS

Corps of Instruction Faculty (1)

1. Nancy Mizelle, CoE

*V.Section2.C.4.a. Membership. The **Resources, Planning, and Institutional Policy Committee** shall have no fewer than eleven (11) and no more than thirteen (13) members distributed as follows: no fewer than four (4) and no more than six (6) members selected from the Corps of Instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators, three (3) members who are selected staff senators, one (1) member who is the Chief Business Officer or an individual appointed by the Chief Business Officer to serve as a designee in compliance with V.Section2.C, one (1) member who is the Chief Information Officer or an*

*individual appointed by the Chief Information Officer to serve as a designee, one (1) member who is a student appointed by a process determined by the Student Government Association, and one (1) member appointed by the University President in compliance with II.Section1.A.5.*

Appointees and Designees (4)

1. John Jackson, Chief Business Officer Appointee
2. Brian Watson, Chief Information Officer
3. Blaire Bodell, Student Government Association Appointee
4. TBD, Presidential Appointee

Selected Staff Senators (3)

1. Lonnie Hoell
2. Kelly Prior
3. Christine Amezquita

Elected Faculty Senators (6) **bylaws require at least four**

1. George Cazacu, CoAS
2. Natalie Toomey, CoE
3. Mehrnaz Khalaj Hedayati, CoBT
4. Shantee Henry, CoHS

Corps of Instruction Faculty (1)

1. Catherine Fowler, CoHS

*V.Section2.C.3.a. Membership. The **Student Affairs Policy Committee** shall have no fewer than thirteen (13) and no more than fifteen (15) members distributed as follows: no fewer than six (6) and no more than eight (8) members selected from the Corps of Instruction faculty, at least four (4) of whom are elected faculty senators, two (2) members who are selected student senators, one (1) member who is a selected staff senator, one (1) member who is the Chief Student Affairs Officer or an individual appointed by the Chief Student Affairs Officer to serve as a designee in compliance with V.Section2.C, one (1) member who is a staff member appointed by a process determined by Staff Council, one (1) member who is a student appointed by a process determined by the Student Government Association, and one (1) member appointed by the University President in compliance with II.Section1.A.5.*

Appointees and Designee (3)

1. Sarah Whatley, Chief Student Affairs Officer Designee
2. Maria Gordon, Staff Council Appointee
3. TBD, Presidential Appointee
4. Riley-Kate Miller, SGA Appointee

Selected Student Senators (1)

1. Sam Samiya
2. Samuel Kleppinger

Selected Staff Senator (1)

1. Desaree Henriquez (Murden)

Elected Faculty Senators (5) **bylaws require at least four**

1. John Moore, CoHS
2. Aric Wilhau, CoBT
3. Matthew Forrest, CoAS
4. Amy Pinney, CoAS
5. Lamonica Sanford, Library

Corps of Instruction Faculty (1)

1. Michael Crews, CoAS