

Proposal to Revise the Duties of the Executive Committee

NOTE: The list of the current duties of the Executive Committee is on pp. 3 & 4 of this proposal. Those duties with proposed revisions marked in red are on pp. 5 & 6. A clean, revised list of the duties is on pp. 7 & 8.

Rationale:

Article V of the University Statutes establishes the University Council, authorizes its powers and jurisdiction, and charges it “to make rules and regulations” it deems necessary in two areas: (1) “matters of general educational policy” and (2) “matters dealing with the general welfare of the entire university.” See below and <https://provost.uga.edu/policies/statutes/>

University Statutes

Article V: University Council

Section 2: Powers and Jurisdiction

1. General Educational Policy

The University Council shall exercise legislative power on matters of general educational policy and, consistent with Policies[[[Policies of the Board of Regents, Academic Affairs, § 3.0.](#)]] of the Board of Regents, shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary or proper for the promotion of the educational interests of the University. Recommendations made by any school or college regarding the establishment, major modification, or discontinuance of any degree or program must be approved by the Council before being submitted to the President for transmission to the Chancellor and the Board of Regents for approval. [[[Policies of the Board of Regents, Curriculum, § 3.3.](#)]]

2. Welfare of Entire University

The University Council shall exercise legislative power on matters dealing with the general welfare of the entire University and, consistent with the Policies of the Board of Regents,[[[Policies of the Board of Regents, Presidential Authority and Responsibilities, § 2.5.](#)]] [[[Policies of the Board of Regents, Faculties, § 3.2.2.](#)]] shall make such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary or proper for the promotion of the general welfare of the University.

The University Council’s bylaws assign its legislative power and responsibilities, authorized by the Statutes, to the Executive Committee in its first two duties.

The following revisions have been made to the duties of the Executive Committee:

1. *Combines Duty #1 and Duty #2.* Note that some information in the current Duty #2 is repeated in the current Duty #9. To avoid repetition, this proposal (1) combines the current Duties #1 and #2, using language from both, namely, that the Committee “consider, recommend, and report” policies to the Council, which it does in large part by preparing the agenda for Council meetings, and (2) deletes information in the current Duty #2 repeated in Duty #9.
2. *Re-organizes Duty #9 for clarity.* Note that Duty #9 of the current duties of the Executive Committee lists 8 sources of agenda items for the Council. An analysis of those 8 sources shows they fall into 3 categories, so the proposed revised list of duties re-organizes those sources accordingly for clarity. See below.

Category A: The Executive Committee automatically forwards some items to the Council.

Category B: It can refer items from its own standing and *ad hoc* council committees to the Council. Given that the Executive Committee is a standing committee and given its responsibility to Article V of the University Statutes, it can also initiate items for Council’s consideration.

Category C: It can refer items from other sources to appropriate standing committees.

3. *Clarifies the responsibility of the Executive Committee to both forward items to the appropriate body and also to return items to the source for reconsideration and further development.* A question was asked regarding whether the Executive Committee automatically puts on the Council’s agenda items it receives from sources in Category B (above) and automatically forwards to appropriate standing committees items it receives from sources in Category C (above). Given that the first duty of the Executive Committee states that it “considers” and “recommends” policies to Council, the revised duties clarify that, after consideration of items it receives from sources in Categories B and C, the Committee (1) can forward items to the next appropriate body and also (2) can return items to the source for reconsideration and further development.

Current duties of the Executive Committee in the Council's Bylaws

1. To consider and recommend to the University Council educational policies within the powers of the Council under Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.
2. To consider and report to the University Council on any issue affecting the general welfare of the University or that concerns one or more schools or colleges when such issues have been presented to the Executive Committee either by a member of the Council, of the University faculty, or by an elected faculty senate or forum of any one of the schools or colleges, and when such issues fall within the powers of the University Council as defined by Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.
3. To review, at least annually, the content and organization of the public facing information on the University Council's website and make recommendations for appropriate action to the Council.
4. To fill unexpired terms on any standing committees of the Council. When filling a committee vacancy formerly occupied by an elected representative of a particular school or college, the Executive Committee shall seek the recommendation of that school or college concerning a suitable replacement.
5. To confirm the members of the Program Review and Assessment Committee in accordance with the University's Program Review Policy.
6. Appoint a faculty representative to the UGA Retiree Association.
7. To elect a member of the Executive Committee to serve a three-year term on the University System of Georgia Faculty Council who will report on a regular basis to both the Executive Committee and the University Council at their meetings. The representative's term on the USG Faculty Council shall continue even if their term of membership on the Executive Committee expires.
8. To recommend for the Council's approval such ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.
9. To receive and prepare agenda items for the Council, in any of the following ways:
 - a. Items received from the President will be placed on the agenda.
 - b. Items received from any of the standing or ad hoc committees of the Council, including the Executive Committee, will be placed on the agenda

unless the Committee decides, by a two-thirds majority vote, to refer the item back to committee.

- c. Items received from the faculty of any of the schools or colleges of the University or from the duly constituted representative body of any school or college.
- d. Items received from the Staff Council.
- e. Items received from the official governing organization of the student body.
- f. Items from any person or group not provided for above. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, will refer items received under this section and c, d, and e, above, to the appropriate standing committee, unless unusual or urgent circumstances merit prompt presentation to the Council.
- g. Items presented to the Committee endorsed by the signatures of fifty or more faculty members will appear on the agenda.
- h. Items approved by two-thirds vote of the University Council may be placed on the agenda of the Council.

10. To act, in matters of particular urgency, on behalf of the full Council, as authorized under Article V, Section 2 (f) of the Statutes of the University of Georgia. Actions taken in this manner shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting and confirmed or revoked by a majority vote.

11. To oversee the activities of the Council and to ensure that it implement and observe faithfully the provisions of these bylaws.

Original Duties Marked in Red for Revision

1. To consider, ~~and~~ recommend, ~~and report~~ to the University Council ~~rules and regulations on general educational policies and matters dealing with the general welfare of the entire University~~ within the powers and jurisdiction of the Council in Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.
2. ~~To consider and report to the University Council on any issue affecting the general welfare of the University or that concerns one or more schools or colleges when such issues have been presented to the Executive Committee either by a member of the Council, of the University faculty, or by an elected faculty senate or forum of any one of the schools or colleges, and when such issues fall within the powers of the University Council as defined by Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.~~
2. To review, at least annually, the content and organization of the public-facing information on the University Council's website and make recommendations for appropriate action to the Council.
3. To fill unexpired terms on any standing committees of the Council. When filling a committee vacancy formerly occupied by an elected representative of a particular school or college, the Executive Committee shall seek the recommendation of that school or college concerning a suitable replacement.
4. To confirm the members of the Program Review and Assessment Committee in accordance with the University's Program Review Policy.
5. To appoint a faculty representative to the UGA Retiree Association.
6. To elect a member of the Executive Committee to serve a three-year term on the University System of Georgia Faculty Council who will report on a regular basis to both the Executive Committee and the University Council at their meetings. The representative's term on the USG Faculty Council shall continue even if their term of membership on the Executive Committee expires.
7. To recommend for the Council's approval such ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.
9. ~~To receive and prepare agenda items for the Council, in any of the following ways:~~
 - a. ~~Items received from the President will be placed on the agenda.~~
 - b. ~~Items received from any of the standing or ad hoc committees of the Council, including the Executive Committee, will be placed on the agenda unless the Committee decides, by a two-thirds majority vote, to refer the item back to committee.~~
 - e. ~~Items received from the faculty of any of the schools or colleges of the University or from the duly constituted representative body of any school or college.~~
 - d. ~~Items received from the Staff Council.~~
 - e. ~~Items received from the official governing organization of the student body.~~
 - f. ~~Items from any person or group not provided for above. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, will refer items received under this section and c, d, and e, above, to the appropriate standing committee, unless unusual or urgent circumstances merit prompt presentation to the Council.~~

Commented [ES1]: Some of this information is now in the revised #1. Other information here repeats information in the original #9 and so has been deleted.

Commented [ES2]: Items in the original #9 have been re-organized into 3 categories in the new #8.

~~g. Items presented to the Committee endorsed by the signatures of fifty or more faculty members will appear on the agenda.~~

~~h. Items approved by two-thirds vote of the University Council may be placed on the agenda of the Council.~~

8. To receive and prepare agenda items from the following sources for the Council when such items fall within the powers and jurisdiction of the Council as defined in Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.

A. Items received from the following sources will be placed on the Council agenda:

1. Items from the President of the University.
2. Items endorsed by the signatures of fifty or more faculty members.
3. Items approved by a two-thirds vote of the University Council.

B. Items received from any standing or ad hoc committees of the Council, including the Executive Committee, will be placed on the University Council agenda, unless the Committee decides, by a two-thirds majority vote, to refer the item back to the committee for reconsideration or further development.

C. ~~Items from any person or group not provided for above. The Executive Committee, by majority vote, will refer items received under this section and c, d, and e, above~~ Items received from the following sources will be referred to the appropriate standing committee unless unusual or urgent circumstances merit prompt presentation to the Council or unless the Committee decides to refer the item back to the original source for reconsideration or further development. Each decision requires a majority vote.

1. Items received from the faculty of any of the schools or colleges of the University or from the duly constituted representative body of any school or college.
2. Items received from the Staff Council.
3. Items received from the official governing organizations of the student body.
4. Items received from any person or group not provided for above.

9. To act, in matters of particular urgency, on behalf of the full Council, as authorized under Article V, Section 2(6) of the Statutes of the University of Georgia. Actions taken in this manner shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting and confirmed or revoked by a majority vote.

10. To oversee the activities of the Council and to ensure that it implement and observe faithfully the provision of these bylaws.

Duties after Revision

1. To consider, recommend, and report to the University Council rules and regulations on general educational policy and matters dealing with the general welfare of the entire University within the powers and jurisdiction of the Council in Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.
2. To review, at least annually, the public-facing information on the University Council website and make recommendations for appropriate action to the Council.
3. To fill unexpired terms on any standing committees of the Council. When filling a committee vacancy formerly occupied by an elected representative of a particular school or college, the Executive Committee shall seek the recommendation of that school or college concerning a suitable replacement.
4. To confirm the members of the Program Review and Assessment Committee in accordance with the University's Program Review Policy.
5. To appoint a faculty representative to the UGA Retiree Association.
6. To elect a member of the Executive Committee to serve a three-year term on the University System of Georgia Faculty Council who will report on a regular basis to both the Executive Committee and the University Council at their meetings. The representative's term on the USG Faculty Council shall continue even if their term of membership on the Executive Committee expires.
7. To recommend for the Council's approval such ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.
8. To receive and prepare agenda items from the following sources for the Council when such items fall within the powers and jurisdiction of the Council as defined in Article V, Section 2 of the Statutes of The University of Georgia.
 - A. Items received from the following sources will be placed on the Council agenda:
 1. Items from the President of the University.
 2. Items endorsed by the signatures of fifty or more faculty members.
 3. Items approved by a two-thirds vote of the University Council.
 - B. Items received from any standing or ad hoc committees of the Council, including the Executive Committee, will be placed on the University Council agenda, unless the Committee decides, by a two-thirds majority vote, to refer the item back to the committee for reconsideration or further development.
 - C. Items received from the following sources will be referred to the appropriate standing committee unless unusual or urgent circumstances merit prompt presentation to the Council or unless the Committee decides to refer the item back to the original source for reconsideration or further development. Each decision requires a majority vote.
 1. Items received from the faculty of any of the schools or colleges of the University or from the duly constituted representative body of any school or college.
 2. Items received from the Staff Council.
 3. Items received from the official governing organizations of the student body.
 4. Items received from any person or group not provided for above.
9. To act, in matters of particular urgency, on behalf of the full Council, as authorized under Article V, Section 2(6) of the Statutes of the University of Georgia. Actions taken in this manner shall be reported to the Council at its next meeting and confirmed or revoked by a majority vote. (see Statutes Article V, Section 2(6), next page)

10. To oversee the activities of the Council and to ensure that it implement and observe faithfully the provision of these bylaws.

University Statutes, Article V, University Council, Section 2, Powers & Jurisdiction, #6, Creation of Committees

The University Council shall have power to create such committees as may be needed for the orderly and efficient handling of its business, and on matters of urgency it may vest authority in an executive committee (or such other committee as it may designate) to take immediate action which shall be binding until reversed or modified at a subsequent meeting of the University Council.