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| **Document/Section** | **Current Language** | **Rationale** | **Proposed Language** |
| Institutional Statutes – Article IV, Section 1  **and**  Senate Bylaws – I.Section1.A | The University Senate is endowed with all the legislative powers and authority of the University Faculty and shall be the policy-making assembly at the Institution. | The authority to create policy is spread throughout the institution and should not be exclusive to one body – a body that may not contain the expertise to make changes in certain areas. In addition, as an instrumentality of the state, some policies are made at the board or state level with the institution merely  Additionally, being the policy-making vehicle for the entire Institution gives the Senate more authority than prescribed by the BOR in policy 3.2.4. Anything outside of the “educational process for students” would be outside of Senate purview.  BOR Policy 3.2.4 states: The faculty, or the council, senate, assembly, or such other comparable body at an institution (BoR Minutes, May 2010), shall, subject to the approval of the president of the institution:   1. Make statutes, rules, and regulations for its governance and for that of the students; 2. Provide such committees as may be required; 3. Prescribe regulations regarding admission, suspension, expulsion, classes, courses of study, and requirements for graduation; and, 4. Make such regulations as may be necessary or proper for the maintenance of high educational standards.   “The faculty shall also have primary responsibility for those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process, subject to the approval of the president of the institution.” | The University Senate shall be the policy-recommending assembly at the Institution in accordance with Board of Regents policy. |
| Institutional Statutes – Article IV, Section 2  **and**  Senate Bylaws – I.Section1.B | The University Senate shall have the responsibility for establishing committees, including any committees required to remain in compliance with policies of the Board of Regents, federal or state law, and accreditation or certification organizations that are needed for orderly and efficient governance. | Specialty committees are formed as necessary within the institution, and based on expertise. Giving the Senate “the responsibility for establishing committees” infers that Senate would have authority to form committees outside of the Senate.  See BOR Policy 2.7: “Presidents are authorized to develop the organizational structure required to effectively manage their institution.” | The University Senate shall have the responsibility for establishing committees, within Senate, as are needed for orderly and efficient governance as prescribed by Board of Regents policy. |
| Institutional Statutes – Article IV, Section 3  **and**  Senate Bylaws – I.Section1.C | The University Senate shall not adopt any regulations affecting curricula, or the internal affairs of an academic unit except insofar as such action may be necessary to protect the interests of the Institution as a whole, but it may make recommendations to the faculty of an academic unit concerning matters within their jurisdiction | The autonomy of every department should be considered by Senate when making decisions that affect the Institution as a whole.  See BOR Policy 3.2.4  “The faculty shall also have primary responsibility for those aspects of student life which relate to the educational process, subject to the approval of the president of the institution.” | The University Senate shall not adopt any regulations affecting curricula, or the internal affairs of an academic unit except insofar as such action may be necessary to protect the interests of the Institution as a whole, but it may make recommendations to the faculty of an academic unit concerning matters within their jurisdiction, so long as the University Senate remains mindful of the autonomy of the individual unit and the recommendations are related to the students’ educational process. |
| Institutional Statutes – Article IV, Section 4  **and**  Senate Bylaws – I.Section1.D | The University President shall have fifteen (15) calendar days to decide whether to accept or veto an action taken by the University Senate. Should the President veto the action(s), the President shall provide the University Senate a written statement of the reason(s) for the veto, with a copy of the statement being transmitted to the Chancellor. The University Senate shall have the right to (a) accept the veto; (b) confer with the President to construct a compromise action; or (c) reject the veto requesting that the President reconsider. The decision of which action to take must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the voting membership of the University Senate. If the University Senate or University President refuses to recede, and if agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to the Board of Regents through the Chancellor for review pursuant to the pertinent policies of the Board of Regents. | “The president shall have the power to veto any act of any council, faculty, or committee of his/her institution but, in doing so, shall transmit to the proper officer a written statement of the reason for such veto. A copy of each veto statement shall be transmitted to the Chancellor.” While the policy does not limit the process by which the president may confer with Senate, the current president is charged with discharging his/her duties as is necessary to effectuate the mission of the institution and this provision gives Senate authority akin to that of the president. In addition, asking that the BOR mediate decisions related to institutional governance is inappropriate under this provision and should be handled according to the process as allowed for review of such matters.  See BOR Policy 2.5.2 | The University President shall have fifteen (15) calendar days to decide whether to accept or veto an action taken by the University Senate. Should the President veto the action(s), the President shall provide the University Senate a written statement of the reason(s) for the veto, with a copy of the statement being transmitted to the Chancellor. |
| Institutional Statutes – Article IV, Section 5 | Any proposed modification to these Statutes must be submitted in writing to the Executive Committee of the University Senate for consideration by the University Senate. The Executive Committee shall make a report to the University Senate regarding the proposed modification(s). A motion shall be made regarding the disposition and tabled until the next University Senate meeting. Adoption of a modification requires a two- thirds (2/3) majority approval of the voting membership of the University Senate. As is the case for any action of the University Senate, the modification also requires the approval of the University President as specified in Article IV Section 4 of these Statutes. | Senate is charged with creating statutes, rules, and regulations for itself and students. The institutional statutes currently contain information outside of the scope of such a charge.  See BOR Policy 3.2.4: The faculty, or the council, senate, assembly, or such other comparable body at an institution, shall: Make statutes, rules, and regulations for its governance and for that of the students. | Revise statutes to only contain information in line with the charge to the Senate or remove Article V as the president has broad discretionary powers to effectuate appropriate change in line with the mission of the institution pursuant to Board of Regents Policy. |
| Senate Bylaws – V.Section2.C.1.b | The Academic Policy Committee shall be concerned with policy relating to undergraduate and graduate education matters that have broad impact or implication to the university as a whole, which includes, but is not limited to, policies relating to grading, scholastic probation and honors, academic appeals, academic standing, standards for admission, academic calendar, academic ceremonies, intellectual property, human subjects and research. This committee also provides advice, as appropriate, on academic procedural matters at the institution. | Intellectual property and human subjects are autonomous committees governed by other laws and policies, the proper place for this committees are outside of the Senate structure.  BOR Policy 6.3.4 states: “Each USG institution is required to develop policies and procedures for the administration of this Intellectual Property Policy. Each president shall appoint an institutional Intellectual Property committee, consisting of no fewer than three (3) or more than nine (9) members, one of whom shall be designated by the president to serve as chair.”  All information related to IRBs are contained in 45 CFR 46. No board should have control over the operations of an independent committees. Such control would affect the integrity of the IRB. | The Academic Policy Committee shall be concerned with policy relating to undergraduate and graduate education matters that have broad impact or implication to the university as a whole, which includes, but is not limited to, policies relating to grading, scholastic probation and honors, academic appeals, academic standing, standards for admission, academic calendar, and academic ceremonies. This committee also provides advice, as appropriate, on academic procedural matters at the institution. |
| Senate Bylaws – V.Section2.C.2.b | The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Committee shall be concerned with policy relating to curriculum and academic assessment, which includes, but is not limited to, policies relating to general university degree requirements (e.g. General Education Curriculum, Foreign Language requirement, Wellness requirement) academic program assessment, and continuing education and non-degree programs. In addition to its policy recommending function, this committee shall be responsible for reviewing and approving proposals to create or deactivate certificates, concentrations, degree programs, and minors, as well as the periodic review of general education requirements and learning outcomes. This committee also provides advice, as appropriate, on procedural matters relating to curriculum and academic assessment. | Continuing education and other non-degree programs are managed by a separate department within the Institution – Extended University.  See BOR Policy 2.5: “The president of each USG institution shall be the executive head of the institution and of all its departments, and shall exercise such supervision and direction as will promote the efficient operation of the institution. The president shall be responsible to the Chancellor for the operation and management of the institution, and for the execution of all directives of the Board and the Chancellor. The president’s discretionary powers shall be broad enough to enable him/her to discharge these responsibilities.”  See BOR Policy 2.7: “Presidents are authorized to develop the organizational structure required to effectively manage their institution.” | The Curriculum and Assessment Policy Committee shall be concerned with policy relating to curriculum and academic assessment, which includes, but is not limited to, policies relating to general university degree requirements (e.g. General Education Curriculum, Foreign Language requirement, Wellness requirement), and academic program assessment. In addition to its policy recommending function, this committee shall be responsible for reviewing and approving proposals to create or deactivate certificates, concentrations, degree programs, and minors, as well as the periodic review of general education requirements and learning outcomes, that have an effect on the Institution as a whole. This committee also provides advice, as appropriate, on procedural matters relating to curriculum and academic assessment. |