

THE FACULTY ROLE IN SHARED GOVERNANCE

A. Purpose

To implement Rule 40101 of The University of Texas System Board of Regents' *Rules and Regulations*, Faculty Role in Educational Policy Formation, which states that faculty members at UT System institutions shall have a major role in the governance of their respective institutions in important matters of academic policy.

B. Persons Affected

This policy applies to all members of the General Faculty, as well as elected or appointed members of shared governance bodies (e.g., Faculty Senate or other academic committees or councils) at all levels throughout The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV).

C. Policy

UTRGV or the UT System Board of Regents will ordinarily seek the advice of the faculty on important matters of academic policy. The faculty role in shared governance at UTRGV is implemented through its Faculty Senate, an elected representative, advisory, and deliberative body whose functions include, among others, reviewing and making recommendations on educational policies, and developing and proposing educational policies that will promote the mission of UTRGV. Academic Committees and Councils may also be appointed to consider, review, and make recommendations concerning certain matters or subjects under the committee's or council's assigned responsibilities.

Subject to the authority of the UT System Board of Regents and subject further to the authority that the UT System Board of Regents has vested in the various administrative officers and subdivisions of the UT System, the Faculty Senate is responsible for reviewing, developing and proposing, or recommending policies in the following areas, as specified in *Regents' Rules* 40101, Section 3:

1. General academic policies and welfare
2. Student life and activities
3. Requirements for admission and graduation
4. Honors and scholastic performance
5. Approval of candidates for degrees
6. Faculty rules of procedure

D. Procedures

Rules as to membership process and removal, regular and special meetings, quorum, officers and duties, elections and terms, standing committees, and other operating procedures shall be determined by the Faculty Senate and codified in ADM 05-100 Faculty Senate Constitution and ADM 06-304 Academic Committees and Councils.

E. Definitions

1. *Academic Committees and Councils* - as outlined in ADM 06-304 Academic Committees and Councils. Recommendations for membership on Academic Committees and Councils are made by the Faculty Senate Committee on Committees to the officers of the Faculty Senate who in turn recommend these faculty for appointment by the appropriate executive vice president.
2. *Faculty Senate* - An elected, representative, advisory, and deliberative body of the faculty that serves to ensure that faculty have a major role in the governance of their institutions. See ADM 05-100 Faculty Senate Constitution for eligibility.
3. *General Faculty* - Non-visiting full-time faculty holding the ranks of Regental Professor, Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Assistant/Associate/Professor in Practice, Clinical faculty, or Lecturer appointed from all UTRGV sources of funds and other faculty titles approved by the UT System Board of Regents.

F. Related Statutes or Regulations, Rules, Policies or Standards

[University of Texas System Regents' Rules and Regulations 40101, Faculty Role in Educational Policy](#)

[UTRGV HOP Policy, ADM 05-100 Faculty Senate Constitution](#)

[UTRGV HOP Policy, ADM 06-304 Academic Committees and Councils](#)

G. Dates Reviewed or Amended

Amended (editorial changes) on July 15, 2019