



CAL POLY
Academic Senate

Orientation

September 30, 2025

Shared Governance

AS-748-12: Resolution on Shared Governance

- From the *Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities, AAUP*:

“The variety and complexity of tasks performed by institutions of higher education produce an inescapable interdependence among governing board, administration, faculty, students, and others. The relationship calls for adequate communication among these components, and opportunity for appropriate joint planning and effort.”

21 RESOLVED: The faculty affirm its primary responsibility for such fundamental areas as
22 curriculum, subject matter and methods of instruction, research, faculty status,
23 and student educational processes; and be it further
24
25 RESOLVED: On matters wherein faculty has primary responsibility, decisions of trustees and
26 the President should concur with faculty judgment except in rare circumstances,
27 and for reasons clearly communicated to the faculty, and with the full input from
28 and consultation with the faculty; and be it further
29
30 RESOLVED: The faculty should, following such communication, have opportunity for further
31 consideration and further transmittal of its views to the trustees or president; and
32 be it further
33

The Work of the Senate

Powers & Responsibilities: Exercise all legislative and Advisory Powers on behalf of the faculty

Legislative: All educational matters that affect the general faculty

- Curricula (via the ASCC, CAC, GEGB, & USCP, for example)
- Academic Personnel Policies (FAC and RSCA, for example)
- Academic Standards (IC, Fairness Board, DTA, DSA)
- ETC: (Diversity, Sustainability, Grants Review)
- Advisory: Include but are not limited to consultation on
 - Budget policy (BLRP, for example)
 - Administrative Appointments (Executive Committee)
 - Determination of CAP (Senate Chair or designee)
 - University Organization (Executive Committee)
 - Facilities Use and Planning (BLRP, Sustainability)

Senate Officers and Staff

Senate Officers

- Jerusha Greenwood, Senate Chair, Experience Industry Management, CAFES
- Samuel Frame, Vice Chair, Statistics & Noyce School of Applied Computing

Senate Staff

- Shannon Sullivan-Danser, Senate Analyst
- PJ Crocker, Student Assistant
- Zora Sowinska, Student Assistant

Senate Officers - Chair

Senate Officers - Chair

- Set agendas and conduct all meetings of the Academic Senate and Executive Committee
- Serve as a liaison between administrators and faculty
- Prepare charges for Academic Senate Committees, in consultation with the Senate Executive Committee and the Provost, and discuss charges with committee chairs/committees
- Review meeting minutes before distribution to Executive Committee and Senate for approval
- Work with ASI Officers, CFA President, Provost, President and other Ex Officio members of the Executive Committee
- Serve as a resource and sounding board for faculty who wish to discuss issues important to the work of the senate

Senate Officers - Immediate Past Chair

Senate Officers - Immediate Past Chair

- Serves as a voting member of the Executive Committee
- Serves as the Senate Parliamentarian; advises the Chair on procedure

Senate Staff

Senate Staff

- Plan and manage Senate and Executive Committee meeting logistics
- Consult with Senate Chair and Academic Senate Committee Chairs about procedures
- Provide resources for the construction of senate resolutions
- Prepares meeting minutes and transcripts
- Conducts majority of senate correspondence
- And so much more!

Caucus Chairs

Seven Caucuses: Each college and Professional Consultative Services

- Represent each of the colleges and PCS (7 total) to the Executive Committee
- Attend both Executive Committee and Academic Senate meetings
- Fill vacancies from their college/area on Senate and University Committees
- Keep their colleges/areas apprised of Senate work
- Report to Senate officers or Executive Committee with relevant events in their colleges/areas

Executive Committee - Members

Voting Members

- Caucus Chairs
- Three Statewide Senators
- Senate Parliamentarian
- Vice Chair
- Chair (tie-breaking votes only)

Non-Voting/Ex-Officio Members

- Provost
- CFA President
- ASI President
- Chair, ASI Board of Directors

2025-26 Caucus Chairs:

- CAED: Vacant
- CAFES: Sean Hurley (AGB)
- CENG: Steffen Peuker (ME)
- CLA: Ava Wright (PHIL)
- BCSM: Andrew Schaffner (STAT)
- OCOB: Brian Ayash (FIN)/Ben Alexander (MGMT)
- PCS: Kara Hitchcock, Retention

Executive Committee - Responsibilities

Responsibilities

- Agendize business items: determine which resolutions to bring to the full senate. Once agendized, a resolution will be taken up by the senate as a first reading. Resolutions range from legislative to advisory
- Vet statements of interest and select Senate and University committee faculty & PCS representatives
- Fill temporary faculty/PCS vacancies and approve other appointments by the Chair to the official committees

Senators

Represent Colleges and Professional Consultative Services

- Elected by colleges.
 - Article 3, Section 1.a. “Colleges with fewer than 30 faculty members shall elect two senators. All other colleges shall elect three senators, plus one senator for each 30 faculty members or major fraction thereof.”
- Communicate with college/department constituents: agenda, general issues, canvass before meetings for questions and votes
- Attend senate meetings and observe parliamentary procedure
- Arrange for proxy in writing if unable to attend a meeting. Only an individual in the same caucus may vote proxy
- Technically, a Senator can be dismissed from Senate duty if they miss two consecutive meetings without substitutes
- If unable to attend meetings for an entire term, work with caucus chair to determine a replacement

Senate Meetings

Protocol & Procedures

- All meetings are recorded
- Structure: Minutes | Reports | Business Items
- Follow abridged Robert's Rules of Order & Senate Bylaws
- Customary to address the Chair when speaking
- Due to fixed and limited time of meetings, speakers should limit questions/comments to 2 minutes, will typically only be recognized twice per report/business item
- Senators may cede time to guest speakers with permission of the Chair

Senate Meetings

Protocols & Procedures

- Speakers Lists
 - Raise “zoom” hand/name card & Vice Chair will put you in the speakers queue
 - Chair will recognize speakers
 - Chair does not necessarily need to follow speakers list order
 - Speakers who have not yet spoken may be given priority
 - Read and follow decorum/etiquette provided in all emailed agendas

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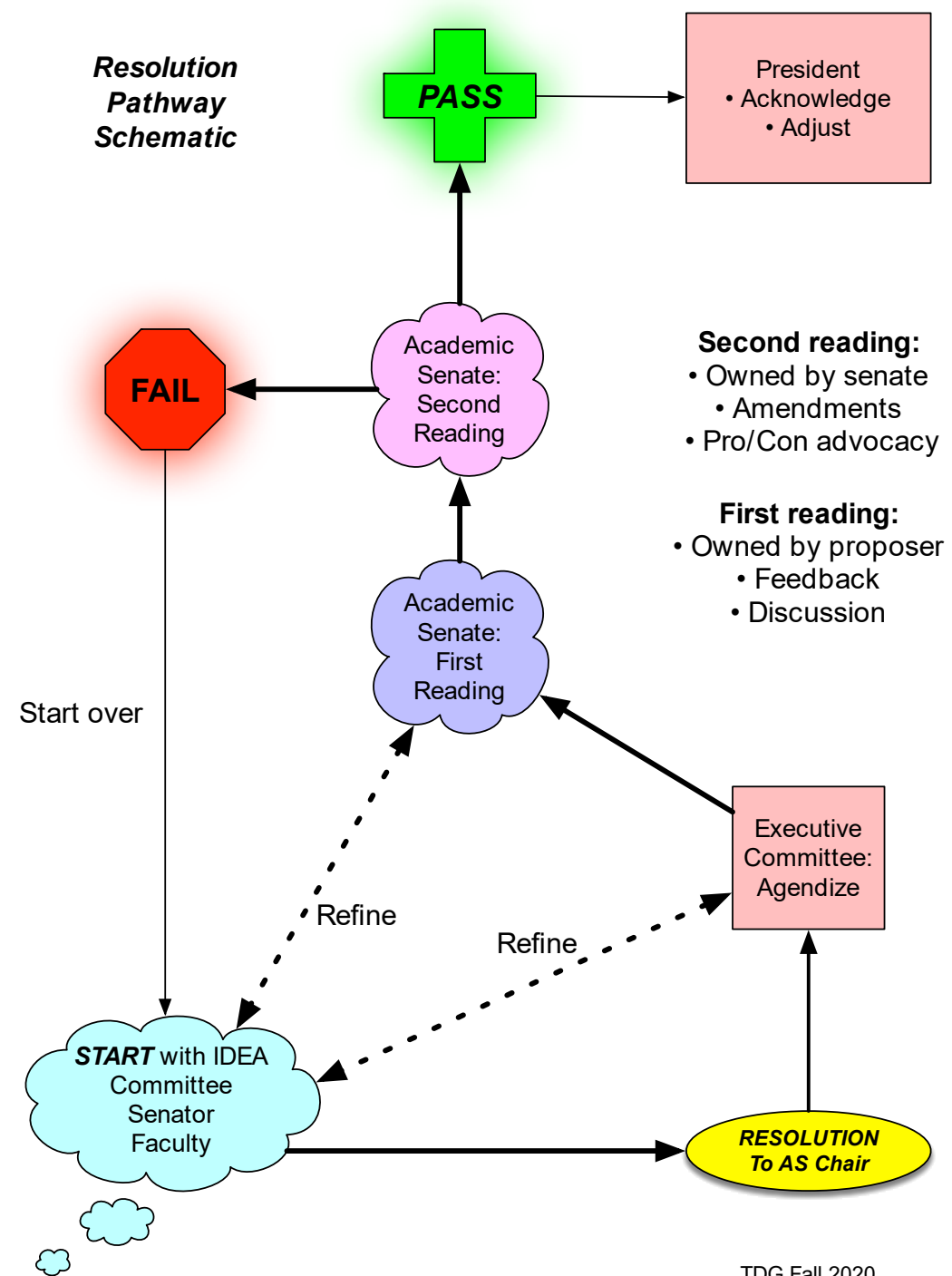
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Resolution Pathway



Resolutions - Origin

Where do they come from? Who writes them?

(see charts on slide 14 & 15)

- Resolutions can be written by any member of the University community, in addition to Senate committees and the Executive Committee
- The Executive Committee votes on which resolutions to agendize. Once a resolution is agendized, it will be taken up by the senate as a first reading
 - First Reading (Def): a designated period during which suggestions are made to improve a resolution. The resolution is still owned by its author and is not yet amendable by the senate
- A resolution moved, seconded, and voted to a second reading may be amended to by the senate
 - Second Reading (Def): Once a resolution is promoted from first reading, it belongs to the senate body and may be amended. Documents attached to a resolution can not be modified, removed, or added to a resolution. Discussion is focused on arguments directly supporting or opposing the resolution

Resolutions - Passage

What happens to them?

- Time-sensitive resolutions or resolutions on substantive issues may be moved to a second reading in the same meeting
- At the second reading, a resolution may be moved and seconded to a vote for adoption
- During voting, the Senate officers and support staff record the total number of votes in the affirmation, opposition, and abstention
- Resolutions are either adopted, rejected, withdrawn, referred to a committee, or postponed
 - Postponed resolutions will receive a time-certain if we do not intend indefinite postponement.
- If unresolved at the end of the year, a resolution is dropped and must be re-agendized the following year by the Executive Committee

Questions?

