Section: 50.2.1  
Section Title: University Senate  
Policy Name: Senate – Membership and Organization  
Formerly: Book 2.2.1  
Approval Authority: Board of Governors  
Responsible Executive: Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Responsible Office: Office of Academic Affairs  
Originally Issued: 1959  
Errors or Changes? Contact: policies@oaa.rutgers.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Name</th>
<th>Senate – Membership and Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Section #</td>
<td>50.2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval Authority</td>
<td>Board of Governors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Executive</td>
<td>Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsible Office</td>
<td>Office of the Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Policy Statement**  
   This policy is intended to inform those members of the Rutgers community interested in becoming University Senators, as well as those responsible for conducting elections of University Senators. It also informs the Rutgers administration and community regarding the representation and election of the University Senate Members.  

2. **Reason for Policy**  
   This policy codifies eligibility of members of the Rutgers community to become members of the University Senate.  

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the University Senate and guides Rutgers units in understanding how they are represented in the activities of the Senate.

3. **Who Should Read This Policy**
   - All members of the Rutgers University community

4. **Related Documents/Resources**
   4. University Policy 10.1.2.; Academic Matters—Academic Units
   4. University Policy 50.2.2.; University Senate—Duties and Powers
   4. University Policy 50.2.3.; University Senate—Procedures
   4. University Policy 60.5.2.; Faculty—Academic Titles and Rank Equivalencies for Tenured, Tenure-Track and Non-Tenure Track Faculty

   [Rutgers University Senate – Phone 848-932-7642](https://senate.rutgers.edu)

5. **Definitions**

   [Definitions](https://senate.rutgers.edu)

   1. The term “faculty member” as used in paragraphs A(1), A(2), A(3), A(4), A(5), and A(6) with respect to eligibility to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate shall refer to tenure-track, non-tenure-track, and clinical faculty members of the University (other than part-time lecturers) holding the ranks defined in Policy Section 60.5.2 A and B of the University Policy Library.

   2. The term “faculty member” as used in paragraphs A(2) and B(1)-(6) with respect to being counted for the purpose of determining the entitlement of a unit shall refer to all budgeted instructional, research, clinical, and extension faculty lines assigned to each faculty, school, and division of the University in the fall semester of each academic year.

   3. The term “part-time lecturers” as used in Definitions (1), and in paragraphs A(5) and B(1) with respect to eligibility to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate, shall refer to lecturers hired on a semester/course basis. All part-time lecturers employed by the University at the time of the election are eligible to vote in their respective major campus elections. Those who have taught at the University for at least three semesters during the last three calendar years are eligible to serve.

   4. The term “full-time-equivalent student” as used in paragraphs B(1), B(2), B(3), B(4), and C shall be defined as the number of full-time students plus two-fifths the number of part-time students matriculated in each school in the fall semester of each academic year.

   5. The term “Graduate Schools” as used in paragraphs A(2) and B(4) shall refer to the School of Graduate Studies, the Graduate School–Newark, and the Graduate School–Camden.

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Page 2 of 8
6. The term “staff” as used in paragraphs A(1), A(9) and E(1) with respect to eligibility to vote and/or be elected to the Senate shall refer to full-time employees of the University who are not faculty members as defined in Definitions (1) and (3).

5.5. The Policy:

50.2.1 MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE

A. Definitions

1. The term “faculty member” as used in paragraphs B(1), B(2), B(3), B(4), B(5), and B(6) with respect to eligibility to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate shall refer to full-time tenure-track, non-tenure-track, and clinical faculty members of the University (other than part-time lecturers) holding the rank of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, lecturer or the equivalent academic ranks as defined in Policy Section 60.5.2 A and B of the University Policy Library.

2. The term “faculty member” as used in paragraphs B(2) and C(1)-(6) with respect to being counted for the purpose of determining the entitlement of a unit shall refer to all budgeted instructional, research, clinical, and extension faculty lines assigned to each Faculty, college, school and division of the University in the fall semester of each academic year.

3. The term “part-time lecturers” as used in paragraph A(1), and in paragraphs B(5) and C(1) with respect to eligibility to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate, shall refer to lecturers hired on a semester/course basis. All part-time lecturers employed by the University at the time of the election are eligible to vote in their respective major campus elections. Those who have taught at the University for at least three semesters during the last three calendar years are eligible to serve.

4. The term “full-time equivalent student” as used in paragraphs C(1), C(2), C(3), C(4), and D(1) shall be defined as the number of full-time students plus two-fifths the number of part-time students matriculated in each school or college in the fall semester of each academic year.

5. The term “Graduate Schools” as used in paragraphs B(2) and C(4) shall refer to the School of Graduate Studies, the Graduate School—Newark, the Graduate School—New Brunswick, and the Graduate School—Camden, and the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences.

6. The term “part-time lecturers” as used in paragraphs B(5) and C(1) with respect to eligibility to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate shall refer to lecturers hired on a semester/course basis. All part-time lecturers employed by the University at the time of the election are eligible to vote in their respective campus elections. Those who have taught at the University for at least three semesters during the last three calendar years are eligible to serve.

6. The term “annuall” as used in paragraphs B(5) and C(1) with respect to eligibility

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to vote for a representative and/or to be elected to the Senate shall refer to non-tenure-track faculty hired on a part-time basis for a calendar or academic year.

7. The term “staff” as used in paragraphs B(1), and B(9) and paragraph F(1) with respect to eligibility to vote and/or be elected to the Senate shall refer to full-time employees of the University who are not faculty members as defined in paragraph A(1), (5) or (6) and A(3).

B. Membership and procedures

1. The voting members of the University Senate shall be the Faculty Senators, elected by and from the faculty members of the faculties, colleges, schools, major campuses, and other units of the University as described in paragraphs CB(1)-(5), the Student Senators as described in paragraph DC(1), the representatives from among the staff, and eight representatives elected by the Rutgers University Alumni Association. The President of the University, the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration and University Treasurer, the Chancellor—New Brunswick, the Chancellor—Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, the Chancellor—Newark, the Chancellor—Camden, the Chancellor—Biomedical and Health Sciences, the Chancellor—New Brunswick, the Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian, and one additional member of the administrative staff to be named by the President shall also be voting members of the Senate. The immediate past chairperson of the University Senate, if not already serving as an elected Senator, shall remain a voting Senator for one further year. The Senate may also appoint non-voting members.

2. By December 1 of each year, the President of the University or the President’s designee shall certify to the Executive Secretary of the University Senate the number of faculty members and full-time-equivalent students in each unit and the number of members and associate members of the graduate faculties on December 1 of each year for the purpose of determining the faculty representation for the following academic year. A faculty member shall be counted only in the unit to which the faculty member’s faculty line is budgeted, with the exception that a member of the faculty of one of the regional campuses will be counted as a faculty member of that graduate school in accordance with paragraph CB(4) below, in addition to the faculty member’s home division.

3. The election of Faculty Senators shall be in accordance with their unit’s bylaws and shall be at-large within each unit unless otherwise provided in the unit’s bylaws. When representatives are elected at-large for a major campus, the elections shall be conducted by the Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs (in New Brunswick), or the respective Chancellor’s Offices in Newark and Camden. Each major campus shall have the option of conducting elections of at-large Faculty Senators through action of its respective campus-wide faculty body/group in lieu of campus-wide elections.

4. For the purpose of voting for a representative to the University Senate and/or being elected to the University Senate, a faculty member, excluding members of the graduate faculties, shall have eligibility to vote and/or to be elected in the
unit in which the largest share of the faculty member’s line is budgeted, providing that in the event a line is equally distributed between or among academic units, such faculty member shall choose and thereafter continue to be associated with the chosen unit for the purposes set forth in this paragraph.

5. Faculty sSenators shall normally serve a term of three years. The terms of Faculty sSenators shall be specified by the Executive Committee of the Senate in accordance with the principle that approximately one-third of the terms of Faculty sSenators from each unit shall end each year, without excluding the possibility of re-election. The term of Faculty sSenators shall begin on July 1. Senators representing part-time lecturers and annuals shall be elected annually by vote of part-time lecturers and annuals. The term of part-time lecturer/annual representatives will be for a period of one year and will begin on July 1.

6. When an elected Faculty sSenator leaves the unit from which the senator is elected, the respective Senate seat shall be deemed vacant. When an elected Faculty sSenator assumes a new position within the unit from which the senator is elected (i.e., a position other than that of a faculty member as defined in section A. Definitions above), then the Senate seat shall be declared vacant if the senator is not eligible to be elected to the Senate from the new position in accordance with the respective unit's bylaws at the time the senator assumes the new position. Vacancies when this occurs shall be filled in accordance with the respective unit's bylaws.

7. All matriculated students at the University shall be eligible to vote for and to be elected as sStudent sSenators. The time, place, and manner of the election of sStudent sSenators shall be determined by the student governing body in each of the schools and colleges of the University. Student sSenators shall serve for a term of one year without excluding the possibility of re-election. When an elected sStudent sSenator leaves the unit from which the senator is elected, the respective Senate seat shall be deemed vacant, and the vacancy shall be filled in accordance with the respective student governing body's bylaws. Student Senators shall have full rights to participate in the affairs of the Senate, including voting and holding office. The term of sStudent sSenators shall begin on July 1.

8. The presidential nomination of one member of the administrative staff shall be for a term of one year and shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary of the University Senate by June 15 each year. When individuals hold multiple titles of administrative positions which are included in paragraph 8A(1) for membership in the Senate or when vacancies exist in administrative positions which are included in paragraph 8A(1) for membership in the Senate, the President of the University, in consultation with the individual holding multiple titles in the unit may designate another administrative member of that unit to serve in lieu of the affected positions as members of the sSenate until the titles are separately held or the vacancies filled. The names of designees shall be forwarded to the Executive Secretary of the University Senate.

9. The 4420 staff representatives will be elected at-large from their respective campuses, with seven senators representing New Brunswick, six senators representing Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences, four sSenators representing Newark, and three sSenators representing Camden. Staff

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Page 5 of 8
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except that each college shall have at least one representative; for the faculties
of a campus, the number is to be divided in proportion to faculty lines, except
that each faculty shall have at least one representative.

4. The graduate schools shall be entitled to a number of Faculty Senators which
is the greater of: (a) one senator for each 60 budgeted faculty lines or major
fraction thereof plus one senator for each additional 267 members and
associate members of that graduate school faculty or major fraction thereof, or
(b) one senator for each 800 full-time-equivalent students, or major fraction
thereof, except that: (i) for a graduate school whose entitlement has reached
10 Faculty Senators, further entitlement shall be based upon the greater of:
(a) one senator for each 120 budgeted faculty lines or major fraction thereof
plus one senator for each additional 533 members and associate members of
that graduate school faculty or major fraction thereof, or (b) one senator for
each 1200 full-time-equivalent students, or major fraction thereof; and (ii) the
maximum number of Faculty Senators for each graduate school shall be 20.

5. The University Libraries shall be represented by one senator for each 60
budgeted faculty lines or major fraction thereof, with the title Librarian who shall
serve for a term of three years starting on July 1.

6. Other research and academic units on a major campus shall collectively
comprise one unit (for the purpose of Senate representation) which shall be
entitled to one senator for each 60 budgeted faculty lines or major fraction
thereof. This provision shall include the research and academic units as
maintained on a current listing by campus in the Office of Institutional
Research and Academic Planning, as provided in University Policy Section
10.1.2: Academic Units of University Policies, unless such units are otherwise
provided for above, plus any faculty lines budgeted to the Division of
Continuing Studies.

D.C. Student Representation

One Student Senator shall be elected for each 1200 full-time-equivalent students,
or major fraction thereof, of each school or college offering degrees, except that: (i)
each school or college shall be entitled to at least one student representative; (ii) for
a school or college whose entitlement has reached 10 Student Senators, further
entitlement shall be based on one senator for each 2400 full-time-equivalent
students or major fraction thereof; and (iii) the maximum number of Student
Senators for each school or college shall be 20.

E.D. Officers

1. The elected officers of the Senate shall consist of a Chairperson and Vice-
Chairperson who shall be elected from among the voting membership of the
Senate. The officers of the Senate shall assume office on July 1 following the
date of their election and shall serve a period of one year.

2. The Chairperson of the Senate shall serve for no more than three consecutive
one-year terms.

E.E. Executive Committee

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Page 7 of 8
1. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Senate consisting of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, five faculty members, three student members, one part-time lecturer, one staff representative member, and one alumni member elected from the Senate. All members of the Executive Committee must be voting Senators. One faculty representative member shall be elected from each major campus with the additional members elected at large. One student representative member shall be elected from each major campus. The immediate past chairperson of the Senate shall become an additional member of the Executive Committee, with vote, for one year following the member’s chairpersonship. If not serving as the current Chair of the Senate, the Chair from the preceding year becomes the Immediate Past Chair and serves for one year as an additional voting member of the Executive Committee. Members of the Executive Committee shall assume office on July 1 following the date of their election, and shall serve for a period of one year.

4.2. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for coordinating the activities of the Senate and its committees, exercising such powers as the Senate may delegate to it and acting on its behalf between meetings of the Senate. At least one representative from each major campus (Camden, Newark, and New Brunswick) shall be elected to serve on the Executive Committee. If the Executive Committee deems a member to be excessively absent from its meetings, it may request that member’s resignation or recall from the Executive Committee. Vacancies on the Executive Committee shall be filled by the Executive Committee nominating a replacement, which shall be voted upon by the Senate at its next meeting. Other nominations may be made from the floor at that time. If a vacancy occurs on the Executive Committee, a replacement will be appointed by the Executive Committee as soon as possible. The Executive Committee should then advance that appointment to the Senate, to be voted upon at the next meeting of the Senate.

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