STATUTES

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY®



REVISED May 2022

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

FOREWORD

The Statutes of Valdosta State University are set forth with the approval of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The Board of Regents is a constitutional body with responsibility for all aspects of the government, control, and management of Georgia's University System. Policies of the Board of Regents are assembled from the State Constitution, laws of the State of Georgia, policies and bylaws of the Board, and other actions taken by the Board in official meetings. The Chancellor of the University System is the chief administrative officer of the Board.

In these Statutes, the term "University System" means the University System of Georgia. The terms "Board of Regents" or "Board" mean the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia. The term "Chancellor" means the chief administrative officer of the University System. The term "President" means the President of Valdosta State University.

PREAMBLE

In accordance with the policies of the University System of Georgia, Valdosta State University establishes the following regulations and principles for shared governance and designates them to be The Statutes of Valdosta State University.

These Statutes explain fundamental governing principles, delineate the responsibilities and rights of each University entity, and guide communication among entities in order to accomplish cooperatively the Mission of Valdosta State University.

If any provision of The Statutes of Valdosta State University diverges from or conflicts with the official policies of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, system policies shall prevail.

Table of Contents

| Chapter 1 | University, Mission, and President |
|-------------|--|
| Article I | The University |
| Article II | Mission |
| Article III | The President |
| Chapter 2 | Administrative Officers |
| Article I | Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs |
| Article II | Vice Presidents |
| Article III | College Deans |
| Article IV | Dean of Libraries |
| Article V | Academic Department Heads |
| Article VI | Other Administrators |
| Chapter 3 | University Councils and Committees |
| Article I | The President's Cabinet |
| Article II | The University Council |
| Article III | The Budget Advisory Council |
| Article IV | The Council on Staff Affairs |
| Article V | The Student Government Association |
| Article VI | Diversity Council |
| Article VII | The Faculty Senate |
| Chapter 4 | The University Faculties |
| Article I | General Faculty |
| Article II | Graduate Faculty |
| Article III | Officers of the General Faculty |
| Article IV | Meetings of the General Faculty |
| Article V | Employment Policies and Procedures |
| Article VI | Academic Freedom |
| Chapter 5 | Colleges, Schools, and Departments |
| Article I | Academic Organization |
| Article II | Faculty Responsibilities |
| Chapter 6 | Ratification, Interpretation, Amendments, and Miscellaneous Provisions |
| Article I | Ratification |
| Article II | Interpretation |
| Article III | Amendments |
| Article IV | Miscellaneous Provisions |

CHAPTER 1 UNIVERSITY, MISSION, AND PRESIDENT

ARTICLE I: THE UNIVERSITY

Section 1. Valdosta State University is a unit of the University System of Georgia. It is organized as a comprehensive university and is authorized to award associate, baccalaureate, master's, specialist, and doctoral degrees to qualified candidates in areas of study approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Section 2. Valdosta State University is comprised of administrative divisions as well as academic colleges and schools. The current structure of the institution, both academic and non-academic units, is described on the <u>University Administration website</u>. Graduate degrees are granted through the Graduate School; undergraduate degrees are granted through the respective academic colleges. Additional colleges, schools, and administrative divisions may be added by the President upon notification to the Chancellor two weeks prior to implementation. Each college and school shall be governed by these Statutes.

ARTICLE II: MISSION

- **Section 1.** *Student Mission*: To provide a diverse student population with an inspired education, a safe learning environment, a nurturing community, and a wealth of experience that assists students in molding their futures in a creative, conscious, and caring fashion while preparing them to be lifelong learners who will meet the needs of a changing global society.
- **Section 2**. *University Mission*: To operate the university with a focus toward human, environmental, and financial sustainability while increasing value to our local, regional, national, and international stakeholders. To expand opportunities for our students, employees, and varied community members by promoting social justice and service learning.
- **Section 3**. *Regional Mission*: To provide our region and our home with the resources and support necessary to develop and sustain a higher quality of living, greater economic and community development, and inspired innovation that nurtures and respects our diverse population and beautiful environment while promoting academic outreach, public and private entrepreneurship, and collaboration with all regional entities.

Developed by the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, August 2013. Approved by the President's Cabinet, September 16, 2013. Approved by University Council, March 24, 2014. Approved by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, August 20, 2014. Reapproved by the Board of Regents, February 9, 2021.

ARTICLE III: THE PRESIDENT

Section 1. The President is the executive head of the University and exercises such supervision and direction as will promote the efficient operation of the institution. Responsible to the Chancellor for the management of the University and for the execution of all directives of the Board of Regents and the Chancellor, the President works collaboratively with institutional, community, and system stakeholders, and in addition to the authority and responsibilities authorized by the Board of Regents (BOR Policy 2.5 "Presidential Authority and Responsibilities"), with respect to the internal governance of the Institution, the President shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. providing educational leadership and encouraging innovation in educational processes as may be deemed desirable and necessary for the development of the University;
- b. supervising and coordinating the divisions of the university and their vice presidents as well as others designated as direct reports;
- c. serving as the official channel of communication between the University, the Chancellor, and the Board of Regents;
- d. preparing an annual budget request for presentation to the Chancellor and the Board of Regents;
- e. conferring all academic degrees on qualified candidates upon recommendation of the appropriate members of the faculty;
- f. ensuring maximum efficiency and coordination by reorganizing the administration of the University, abolishing administrative offices and creating new ones, and reassigning administrative powers and responsibilities;
- g. deciding all questions of the interpretation of these Statutes and determining the nature and extent of the jurisdiction proper to the faculties of the colleges, schools, the General Faculty, councils, committees, and administrative officers for which provision is made in these Statutes;
- h. engaging in planning for the future development of the University through recommendations to the Faculty Senate, General Faculty, Chancellor, and Board of Regents;
- i. holding veto power over all actions of the General Faculty, Faculty Senate, or other governance bodies of the University; when such veto power is exercised by the President, the group concerned is given a written statement of the reasons for the veto;
- j. granting leaves of absence, most of which are subject to the approval of the Chancellor and the Board of Regents
- k. having other such additional powers, duties, and responsibilities as set forth in the Policies of the Board of Regents.

Section 2. The President is a person of professorial rank, a member of the General Faculty, and the Graduate Faculty. The President serves as Chairperson of the General Faculty and presides at all meetings of this body.

Section 3. The President is appointed by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and holds office at the pleasure of the Board.

Section 4. In the temporary absence of the President, presidential functions shall be exercised in the interim by a university leader appointed by the President or Chancellor.

5

Valdosta State University

CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

ARTICLE I: PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Section 1. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs is the chief academic officer of Valdosta State University and has responsibility for maintaining an appropriate educational environment. The Provost reports to the President and holds office at the pleasure of the President.

Section 2. In exercising the powers and duties of the office, the Provost shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. unifying and harmonizing the collective efforts of the General Faculty and the academic administration, particularly in regards to budget and regulations;
- b. appointing university-wide special committees;
- c. advocating for shared governance;
- d. promoting the development of academic and non-academic activities that fulfill the responsibilities assigned to the University by the Board of Regents;
- e. arbitrating demands among Academic Colleges for facilities and equipment;
- f. exercising general control over academic budgets and working with the President and other vice presidents to prepare and recommend university-wide budgets;
- g. adjusting the organizational and reporting structure of Academic Affairs and the university's Academic Colleges to gain efficiencies, upon consultation with the President;
- h. making recommendations to the President concerning promotion, tenure, and salary increases for faculty
- i. recommending to the President the appointment of assistants as may be necessary for the effective administration of the Office of the Provost; and
- j. performing such additional duties as the President may deem appropriate to the office.

Section 3. The Provost is a member of the General Faculty and the Graduate Faculty and serves as Vice Chairperson of the General Faculty.

ARTICLE II: VICE PRESIDENTS

Section 1. Vice Presidents have responsibility for the coordination and supervision of activities assigned to their respective divisions and hold office at the pleasure of the President.

Section 2. In carrying out the duties ordinarily implied by the office, Vice Presidents shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. providing leadership for the division along with development and implementation of appropriate goals;
- b. exercising general control over all funds allocated for the operation of the division, sharing with deans and/or directors the task of preparing and recommending budgets;
- c. promoting the development of activities that fulfill the responsibilities assigned to the University by the Board of Regents;
- d. appointing university-wide special committees;
- e. studying ways and means by which the quality and efficiency of services may be improved

6

- and for making recommendations on these matters;
- f. charging all administrative units under the division with the preparation of comprehensive annual reports and/or institutional effectiveness reports;
- g. recommending to the President appointment of assistants and other personnel necessary to discharge the functions and duties of the office; and
- h. performing all other duties specified in the official position description existing for each vice presidential position and such additional duties as the President may deem appropriate to the office.

Section 3. Vice Presidents, except for the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, are ex-officio members of the General Faculty.

ARTICLE III: COLLEGE DEANS

Section 1. Each college within the University has an academic dean to serve as its chief executive officer. Each dean is appointed by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs after consultation with the President. Deans hold office at the pleasure of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Each dean is a person of professorial rank, a member of the General Faculty and Graduate Faculty. Academic deans report to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or designee.

Section 2. Under the direction of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the dean of each college shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. facilitating the development of and coordinating the programs, policies, and procedures designed to promote the goals of the college and the University;
- b. striving to fulfill the educational needs of students and promoting enhancement of instructional quality, research, and service in all areas under the college's jurisdiction;
- c. recommending to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs an annual budget for the college and its respective units;
- d. overseeing the efficient expenditure of funds allocated to the college;
- e. representing the college in all official communications;
- f. recommending to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs all faculty appointments to the college, including department heads and such associates or assistants as may be necessary to discharge efficiently the duties of the office of the dean;
- g. making recommendations to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs concerning promotion, tenure, and salary increases for the college's faculty;
- h. recommending to the Associate Provost for Graduate Studies and Research the appointment of the faculty of the college to the Graduate Faculty;
- i. exercising general supervision over the college's curricula and over the academic work of students seeking degrees granted by the college;
- j. presiding at all regular and special meetings of the faculty of the college;
- k. preparing and submitting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs institutional effectiveness reports and institutional effectiveness plans for the college on or about September 30 of each year;
- presenting to the Faculty Senate, appropriate administrator, or appropriate committee chairperson those actions of the college's faculty that require either confirmation or approval before becoming effective;

- m. nominating candidates for degrees in the college; and
- n. performing additional duties or overseeing additional offices as designated by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

ARTICLE IV: DEAN OF LIBRARIES

Section 1. The Dean of Libraries is appointed by and reports directly to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs after consultation with the President. The Dean of Libraries shall be a person of professorial rank and a member of the General Faculty and Graduate Faculty.

Section 2. In carrying out the duties ordinarily implied by the office, the Dean of Libraries shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. administering Odum Library;
- b. making annual allocations to the colleges and schools from the funds available for the purchase of library materials;
- c. authorizing the purchase of books, periodicals, and other library materials, supplies, and equipment;
- d. supervising library expenditures and use of library materials;
- e. recommending the adoption of measures to promote the efficiency and increased usefulness to patrons of Odum Library;
- f. recommending to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs the appointment of all members of the library faculty and staff necessary for the efficient operation of Odum Library;
- g. recommending to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs an annual budget for Odum Library;
- h. preparing and submitting to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs an annual report and/or institutional effectiveness report for Odum Library on or about September 30 of each year; and
- i. performing such additional duties as the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs may deem appropriate to the office.

ARTICLE V: ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT HEADS

Section 1. Each college is organized into academic departments or schools, to which members of the faculty are assigned. An academic department or school is an administrative unit and exists for the purpose of providing instruction, research, and service. A faculty member serves as its head (or associate dean in the case of a school). Department head appointments are made after consultation with the faculty of the particular department by the dean of the college and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs.

- **Section 2**. Academic department heads are persons of professorial rank and are members of the General Faculty.
- **Section 3**. Under the direction of a dean, each department head (or associate dean in the case of a school) shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:
 - a. consulting routinely with members of the department on all substantive matters;

Statutes 2022

- b. establishing committees within the department to aid in its administration;
- c. facilitating the development of programs, policies, and procedures designed to promote the goals of the University and to enhance the quality of instruction, research, and service within the department;
- d. overseeing, within the limits of departmental concern, faculty teaching schedules and assignments, academic mentoring/advisement of students, and the preparation of catalogue materials;
- e. assuming primary responsibility for identifying and maintaining the instructional staff of the department, and recommending faculty appointments, promotion, tenure, salary, and dismissal;
- f. overseeing the efficient expenditure of funds allocated to the department;
- g. representing the department in all official communications;
- h. recommending to the dean the name of a departmental faculty member to serve as acting department head during any period of absence from the campus that exceeds one week;
- i. preparing and recommending to the dean or director an annual budget for the department;
- j. conducting an annual evaluation of each member of the departmental faculty;
- k. preparing an annual report and/or institutional effectiveness reports and institutional effectiveness plans for the department, to be submitted to the appropriate dean at the determined time each year; and
- 1. performing such additional duties as the dean or director may deem appropriate to the office.

ARTICLE VI: OTHER ADMINISTRATORS

Other administrators and who they report to may be found in the current copy of the University's organizational chart.

CHAPTER 3 UNIVERSITY COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Preamble: Each body listed in the articles of this chapter functions as part of the shared governance of the university.

ARTICLE I: THE PRESIDENT'S CABINET

- **Section 1**. The President's Cabinet is advisory to the President on administrative matters pertaining to all operational areas of the University and assists the President with university leadership.
- **Section 2**. The President's Cabinet consists of all vice presidents, and any other senior administrative officers who are assigned by the President to serve as part of their duties.

ARTICLE II: THE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL (UC)

- **Section 1.** The University Council is advisory to the President on administrative matters pertaining to strategic planning and policy approval, and it exists to aid in university-wide information sharing.
- **Section 2.** The University Council consists of members of the President's Cabinet, deans of the University's academic colleges, chair of the Council of Department Head's, director of institutional effectiveness, presidents of Faculty Senate and the Council on Staff Affairs, and other senior leaders appointed by the President to serve in this capacity.

ARTICLE III: THE BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL (BAC)

Section 1. The Budget Advisory Council is an advisory group to the President which serves as an information conduit to discuss ideas and assist in the strategic budgeting and planning process. It is charged with ensuring a fiscally responsible strategic allocation of resources aligned with Valdosta State University's strategic goals. Based on input received from all constituencies of the University, the Council assists in the development of the annual Budget Plan for recommendation to the President. The Council monitors the Budget Plan throughout the year via open meetings, as needed, to ensure the effective, efficient, and fiscally sound use of resources.

ARTICLE IV: THE COUNCIL ON STAFF AFFAIRS

Section 1. The Council on Staff Affairs (COSA) advances the mission of the University as a whole and promotes and fosters the welfare of University staff through the combined creativity of staff representatives throughout the University. COSA will participate in the process of the University's shared governance by advising the President regarding matters concerning University staff and the general welfare of the University. COSA may consult with and make recommendations to other appropriate organizations of the University.

Statutes 2022

Section 2. The Council on Staff Affairs shall prepare, adopt, and maintain a set of bylaws outlining its membership, committees, and reporting structure and post that document on the organization's website.

ARTICLE V: THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

- **Section 1.** The purpose of the Student Government Association (SGA) shall be to represent and voice the concerns of all students of VSU in all university matters, while creating legislation and developing programs and activities of practical value to the student body.
- **Section 2.** The Student Government Association shall prepare, adopt, and maintain a set of bylaws outlining its membership, committees, and reporting structure and post that document on the organization's website.

ARTICLE VI: DIVERSITY COUNCIL

- **Section 1.** The Diversity Council serves as an advisory group to the President and provides a platform to engage a broad representation of the campus community to support and advance diversity, equity and inclusion efforts at the institution, especially in the area of recruitment of and retention of students and high quality personnel.
- **Section 2.** The Diversity Council shall prepare, adopt, maintain, and publish a set of bylaws outlining its membership, committees, and reporting structure and post that document on the organization's website.

ARTICLE VII: THE FACULTY SENATE

- **Section 1**. The Faculty Senate functions as the representative, deliberative, advisory, and legislative body of the General Faculty.
- **Section 2**. The Faculty Senate advises the President regarding matters concerning academics, the faculty and the general welfare of the University.
- **Section 3.** The Faculty Senate shall prepare, adopt, and maintain a set of bylaws outlining its membership, committees, and reporting structure and post that document on the organization's website.

CHAPTER 4 THE UNIVERSITY FACULTIES

ARTICLE I: GENERAL FACULTY

Section 1. The General Faculty includes all persons who hold the academic rank of instructor, lecturer, senior lecturer, principal lecturers, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor and are employed full-time on a calendar or academic year basis, together with the President, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice Presidents (ex-officio), the Academic Deans, and the Dean of Libraries.

ARTICLE II: GRADUATE FACULTY

Section 1. The Graduate Faculty consists of the President, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Academic Deans, and those members of the General Faculty with rank and credentials suitable for graduate faculty appointment.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

- **Section 1**. The President serves as Chairperson of the General Faculty and presides at meetings of the General Faculty.
- **Section 2**. The Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs assists the President in the President's role as Chairperson of the General Faculty by presiding in the absence of the President at meetings of the General Faculty;
- **Section 3**. President's designee is responsible to prepare and distribute minutes of faculty meetings to members of the General Faculty.
- **Section 4**. The President may designate an individual to serve as parliamentarian during General Faculty meetings.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL FACULTY

Section 1. Meetings of the General Faculty may be called at the discretion of the President. In addition, the President shall schedule a meeting of the General Faculty whenever twenty percent or more of its members request it in writing. Ordinarily, notice of a special meeting and an agenda are to be made in writing and distributed at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. Items may be placed on the agenda by any of the following: the President of the Faculty Senate, any Administrative Officer, any member of the General Faculty, and any academic unit of the University. Agenda items are to be submitted in writing to the Office of the President who will develop the agenda for each meeting. A written agenda is to be distributed to members of the General Faculty at least one week prior to the meeting. The agenda may be amended at the meeting by a two-thirds vote of the General Faculty members in attendance.

Valdosta State University 12

Statutes 2022

- **Section 2**. Voting during meetings of the General Faculty is usually by voice vote; however, when results of a voice vote are unclear, a show of hands may be requested by any member of the General Faculty. Upon request of twenty percent of the members present, voting shall be by secret written ballot. Persons holding part-time appointments or honorary titles do not vote at meetings of the General Faculty.
- **Section 3**. A quorum consists of fifty percent of the General Faculty. In the event that no quorum is assembled, the issue(s) will still be considered without voting. Later voting will occur by another means, i.e. paper, electronic, online or other accurate means of securing a vote total. Minutes and proposed changes from the General Faculty meeting will be posted electronically within 10 working days after the meeting. The General Faculty will have 10 additional days to review the minutes and other documents and complete the voting process. All issues, other than amendments, can be passed by a simple majority of those who cast a ballot, defined as 50 percent of those voting plus 1. (Note: Amendments to VSU Statutes require a two-thirds majority of those who cast a ballot. *VSU Statutes Chapter 6*, *Article III*, *Section 1(d)*.)
- **Section 4**. Other employees of the University and guests may be invited by the President to attend meetings of the General Faculty when the interests of the University are served by their presence.
- **Section 5**. All actions of the General Faculty are in the form of recommendations to the President. If a recommendation is vetoed, the President must submit in writing to the General Faculty the reasons for rejecting the action. Should a recommendation receive presidential approval, the President shall report at the next called meeting of the General Faculty a summary of actions taken to implement it.

ARTICLE V: EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. Faculty appointment, reappointment, promotion, tenure, and dismissal shall follow policies and procedures established by the Board of Regents and the institution.

ARTICLE VI: ACADEMIC FREEDOM

- **Section 1**. Teachers are entitled to full freedom in research and in the publication of the results, subject to the adequate performance of their other academic duties, but research for pecuniary return should be based upon an understanding with the authorities of the institution.
- **Section 2**. Teachers are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subject, but they should be careful not to introduce into their teaching controversial matter which has no relation to their subject.
- **Section 3**. Teachers are citizens, members of a learned profession, and officers of an educational institution. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As scholars and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence, they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and will make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution.

CHAPTER 5 COLLEGES, SCHOOLS, AND DEPARTMENTS

ARTICLE I: ACADEMIC ORGANIZATION

Section 1. The academic programs of the University are administered through colleges, schools, and departments. Colleges are headed by Deans. Departments of instruction are normally housed within colleges on the basis of subject matter. Changes in academic organization of a department may be initiated by the faculty of that department or the dean of the college and approved by the governing body of the appropriate college, its dean, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, the President and, when appropriate, by the Board of Regents.

ARTICLE II: FACULTY RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. The faculty of each college and school shall have the following specific powers and responsibilities:

- a. establishing entrance requirements for admission to its academic programs;
- b. developing academic programs for its students;
- c. establishing its degree requirements;
- d. participating in the establishment of committees to discharge its duties and responsibilities;
- e. adopting regulations governing procedures for its orderly and efficient administration; and
- f. exercising the fullest measure of autonomy over the academic affairs of the unit, consistent with the maintenance of general educational policies and standards and of correct academic and administrative relations with the governing authority of the University and the Board of Regents.

CHAPTER 6

RATIFICATION, INTERPRETATION, AMENDEMENTS, AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

ARTICLE I: RATIFICATION

Section 1. The Statutes of Valdosta State University are in full force when approved by

- a. A two-thirds majority of faculty members voting through an electronic ballot; and
- b. the President.

ARTICLE II: INTERPRETATION

- **Section 1.** Members of the General Faculty are to be provided with a copy of these Statutes and subsequent modifications thereto.
- **Section 2.** Questions of interpretation of these Statutes are adjudicated by the President.
- **Section 3.** The decision of the President on such matters as interpretation of these Statues or conflict of jurisdiction may be appealed to the Board of Regents (8.6 Application for Discretionary Review).

ARTICLE III: AMENDMENTS

- **Section 1.** Any member of the faculty, staff, or student body can propose modifications to these Statutes. The proposed modification(s) must be submitted in writing to the Faculty Senate, Council on Staff Affairs, and/or Student Government Association for consideration. All proposals are then handled in the following manner:
 - a. within sixty (60) days of receiving a proposal to amend the Statutes, a Committee on Revision is to be appointed either by the President or, upon the President's request, for the purpose of reviewing the proposed amendment(s);
 - b. within sixty (60) days of its formation, the Committee on Revision, after consultation with the President, other interested administrative officers and consideration by the Faculty Senate, COSA and SGA, submits all proposals and its recommendations in writing to the General Faculty no later than (10) working days prior to a town hall meeting of the General Faculty.
 - c. If the modification pertains to faculty members only or to staff members only, the Faculty Senate or the Council on Staff Affairs will recommend such modification(s) to the General Faculty upon approval of a 2/3 majority of its members. If the modification pertains to all employees, both the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council will, upon approval of a 2/3 majority of their members, recommend such modification(s) to the General Faculty. All modifications require the approval of the President.
 - d. proposed amendments are to be adopted by a two-thirds majority of the General Faculty voting via electronic ballot;

Section 2. Amendments to the Statutes are in force when approved by the Procedure outlined in chapter 6, article 3, section 1, subheading c.

Section 3. The President shall interpret these Statutes and any bylaws, when necessary, and shall exercise expressed and implied powers to implement them.

ARTICLE IV: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- **Section 1.** All rules, regulations, and Statues heretofore adopted, inconsistent with these Statutes, are repealed.
- **Section 2.** The Board of Regents retains the power to modify, amend, or repeal these Statutes in any respect.
- **Section 3.** Automatic revisions to these Statutes may be done in specific instances without the need for a faculty vote, including changes appropriate in order to reflect constitutional, Board of Regents, or USG changes, job title changes, schedule, etc.
- **Section 4.** The first revision of the Statues was approved by the General Faculty on March 15, 1999, by the President on March 15, 1999, and by the Board of Regents on June 9, 1999. The second revision of the Statutes was approved by the General Faculty on February 6, 2007, by the President on February 7, 2007, and by the Board of Regents on June 13, 2007. The third revision of the Statutes was approved by the General Faculty on October 16, 2009 and by the President on November 4, 2009. The fourth revision of the Statutes was approved by the General Faculty on May 17, 2012 and by the President on June 4, 2012. The fifth revision of the Statutes was approved by the General Faculty on May 18, 2022 and by the President on May 18, 2022.