

Faculty Handbook

Chapter IV

THE GENERAL FACULTY AND THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

GENERAL FACULTY ORGANIZATION

The General Faculty of HSU is governed by and functions under the “*Constitution of the General Faculty of Humboldt State University*” ([Appendix E](#)). The *Constitution* contains articles dealing with name and purpose, membership, responsibilities for shared governance, officers, finances, committees, elections, and amendments. The *Constitution* also establishes the General Faculty’s relationship with the University Senate.

MEMBERSHIP IN THE GENERAL FACULTY

The membership of the General Faculty is defined in the *Constitution*. Addition or deletion of those who are defined as members is accomplished by amendment to the *Constitution*.

FACULTY MEETINGS

There are two types of meetings of the faculty:

1. *Presidential Faculty Meetings* are called by the President of the University. They are held on the first day of the academic year and at such other times as determined by the President.
2. *Meetings of the General Faculty* are called at the initiative of the President of the General Faculty or when directed by a majority vote of the University Senate or Faculty Session of the University Senate. General Faculty members shall be notified and provided with an agenda at least three working days prior to the meeting. A record of all meetings shall be kept and distributed to the General Faculty.

GENERAL FACULTY RELATIONSHIP TO THE UNIVERSITY SENATE

Through its elected delegates to the University Senate, the General Faculty exercises its responsibilities to formulate, review, and recommend academic policies for the University to the President and other appropriate agents.

UNIVERSITY SENATE

The [University Senate](#) is a deliberative body comprised of faculty, staff, administrators and students who work together to support the educational mission of HSU. It functions as the primary body formulating, reviewing, and recommending policies to the President.

The University Senate is governed by the following documents: *Constitution of the University Senate of HSU* (Appendix F, Part 1) and *Bylaws and Rules of Procedure* (Appendix F, Part 2).

The University Senate consists of elected delegates and ex-officio members. All members except the union delegates and the President of the University are voting members. The Senate meets bi-weekly during the academic year and meetings are open to the campus community, though only members of the Senate participate in the discussion and debate. Agendas and minutes are posted on the Senate website for the campus community.

A "Faculty Session" of the Senate comprises only faculty senators. Its function is to express the collective voice of the faculty or to execute responsibilities specific to the faculty.

The University Senate has the following standing committees (see Bylaws):

- Academic Policies Committee
- Appointments and Elections Committee
- Campus Climate Committee
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee
- Faculty Affairs Committee
- Integrated Curriculum Committee (this committee functions under Academic Programs)
- Senate Executive Committee.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

The University Senate Office, under the Office of Academic Affairs, provides support for the University Senate, the General Faculty, the University Faculty Personnel Committee, and the HSU Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association. The office is located in Gist Hall 101, x3657.