

513. **Faculty Senates**

- A. The faculty senates of the University of Alabama System institutions provide critical faculty perspective and insight into the academic mission and institutional operations. The faculty senates do not, however, possess any final decision-making authority and are advisory only. To the extent there are existing rules, guidelines, handbooks, policies, procedures, and the like that purport to grant final decision-making authority to the faculty senate, they are hereby repealed.¹
- B. With regard to faculty senates for our respective institutions, the Board of Trustees delegates to the Chancellor and the institution Presidents, who in turn delegate to the provosts, all procedural authority.
- C. Institutional policies and procedures must be consistent with Board policy.
- D. The Board of Trustees has delegated to the Chancellor and the institution Presidents certain authority to manage the operations of our institutions, and within that authority, the Chancellor and the institution Presidents can speak on behalf of their institutions, subject to the limitations outlined in Board Rule 304. That limited authority is not delegated to any faculty senate, as they are advisory only. Faculty senates are, however, encouraged to have comprehensive and consistent dialogue with institutional officials.
- E. Each institution shall consult with faculty representatives to develop policies and procedures related to the faculty senate. These policies and procedures must be submitted to the Chancellor for approval and shall:
 - 1. Ensure adequate representation of each college and school within the institution;
 - 2. Set forth the appointment process for faculty senate membership;
 - 3. Provide for election to the faculty senate by a vote of the faculty of the respective colleges and schools; and
 - 4. Provide for the removal of faculty senate members.

¹ See also Board Rule 108.

Given the different sizes of our institutions and need to ensure adequate representation of each college and school within the institution, the Board of Trustees is not setting a limit to the faculty senate membership size. Moreover, faculty senate leadership positions may be appointed by the faculty senate as opposed to the institution's administration.

The Board ratifies the continuation of each institution's faculty senate so long as each faculty senate's policies and procedures are submitted to and approved by the Chancellor before October 1, 2026.

(Adopted August 21, 2026.)