

FACULTY SENATE

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE BILL 25-A-8

Approved by the Faculty Senate
XXXXXXX

BRIEF SUMMARY: This bill amends the *Faculty Constitution* section on *Process of Election*.

REVISING “PROCESS OF ELECTION” SECTION

BE IT RESOLVED THAT: Subject to the passage and approval of this bill the “Process of Election” section of the *Faculty Constitution* will be replaced with the content below.

PROCESS OF SENATOR ELECTION POLICIES

1. Elections shall be conducted within each department, in any manner that is consistent or agreed upon by the department unit. If the department cannot agree on a method, a secret ballot becomes the default selection process.
2. The primary and general elections for department unit representatives shall be completed by March 31 each year.
3. In counting ballots cast in any election, over-voted or unofficial ballots shall be disqualified.
4. The faculty Senate Membership Committee shall send a notice of impending elections to qualified voting faculty members at least 15 days prior to the initial balloting.
5. If only two faculty members from a department unit declare themselves candidates, no primary election will be necessary.
6. In a primary election, the voter shall cast a ballot for one candidate. The two candidates receiving the highest number of votes in each department unit shall be entered in the general election as nominees for the position of unit representative. In the case of a tie in the primary election, the department will be given one opportunity to revote. If the revote ends in a tie, the Membership Committee will meet with both candidates and objectively break the tie by casting a final ballot.
7. Each department unit shall then vote in a general election to select its representative. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall serve as the department unit representative, and the other candidate shall be declared the unit alternate. In the case of a tie in the general election, the department will be given one opportunity to revote. If the revote ends in a tie, the Membership Committee will meet with both candidates and objectively break the tie by casting a final ballot.

Date and Version: February 28, 2025
Handbook Section: Chapter 8 – Article IV
Proposed Change: Faculty Senate Constitution
Source of Bill: Faculty Senate Documents Committee

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Action	Date
Introduced to Senate	
Second Senate Meeting	
Faculty Senate Vote	
Faculty Vote	
Posted to Faculty Handbook	