

C. Term Limit Proposal

Principle C.1 - Term Limits

The Committee proposes that no person be permitted to serve on the Senate for more than 6 consecutive years except to fulfill the position of Immediate Past Chair and for the University President and Provost positions. No person may serve as a Senate Officer (Chair, Vice Chair or Secretary) for more than two consecutive years. No person may hold two Senate Officer positions at the same time nor can they serve in another Senate elected position (Faculty Marshal, Standing Committee Chair, Standing Committee member, etc.) at the same time.

Background C.1 - Term Limits

The current Constitution & ByLaws lacks term limits for some positions and does not provide language for elected versus appointed positions in Senate. Appointed positions are those with a seat on Senate due to their occupying a particular office in governance, rather than by direct election to the Senate; they include the Statewide Senators and Standing Committee chairs. Without clear term limits, there can be confusion with eligibility and inequity with participation in faculty governance. A breakdown of potential issues is listed below:

<u>ByLaws Article #</u>	<u>Statement</u>	<u>Issue</u>
IV Section 1	Outline of the Senate Officer positions	No current term limit stated for officers
VI Section 2	Lacking separate sections for non-elected members and outlining elected v appointed positions.	No current language for elected v appointed
VI Section 2	No current statement on appointed positions	No current language for appointed positions
VIII Section 2	Election for 2 years for Emeriti - no term limit	No current language for term limit
IX Section 1	“A lecturer representative will serve a one-year term and may serve for four consecutive terms.”	Needs language about what happens after the 4 years
XI Section 2	No term limit present for Staff positions	Needs language about re-election and maximum number of years to serve

21 By having a maximum term limit of six years of consecutive service, this allows for faculty
22 members to participate in faculty governance through being an elected senator, officer, statewide
23 senator, and/or standing committee chair. The statewide senate position has a three-year term,
24 which is renewable once. To allow for two consecutive full terms on the statewide senate, if
25 desired, the maximum term limit must be set at least six years of consecutive service. Service
26 can be resumed with a one-year break. This would result in the following potential term limits
27 eligibility permutations.

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29 ● A faculty member has four years of consecutive senate service. The faculty member
30 wishes to run for a 3-year term as a statewide senator. The faculty member is not eligible
31 to run for statewide senator as it will violate the six-year term limit of consecutive
32 service.
- 33 ● A faculty member has two years of consecutive senate service. The faculty member
34 wishes to run for a three-year term as a statewide senator. The faculty member is eligible
35 to run for statewide senator for one term (3 years). The faculty member would not be
36 eligible to run for a second three-year term.
- 37 ● A faculty member has served six years of consecutive senate service. The faculty
38 member wishes to run for the Chair of a Standing Committee (e.g. CIC). The faculty
39 member is not eligible to run for a standing committee chair as it will violate the six-year
40 term of consecutive senate service¹.
- 41 ● A faculty member has served six years of consecutive senate service, with the last two
42 years being as Senate Chair. The faculty member is eligible to remain in faculty
43 governance for one year in the immediate past chair position. This is the only exception
44 to the six years of consecutive service rule.

¹ The ByLaws do not reflect this and previous Senates, on the advice of FAC, have permitted Standing Committee Chairs to serve on the Senate for more than the current 4-year term limit for Senators see [13-14 FAC 12](#). COBRA, in particular, has no term limit set for its members or for its Chair.