

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO
CONSTITUTION
OF THE SENATE

July 2003

**UIC SENATE CONSTITUTION
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ARTICLE	PAGE
Article I. Name of Organization	1
Article II. Purpose	1
Article III. Membership	1
Article IV. Officers and Committees	1
Article V. Senate Bylaws	2
Article VI. Amendments	2
Article VII. Enactment	2

UIC SENATE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I: NAME OF ORGANIZATION

This body will be known as the Senate of the University of Illinois at Chicago, hereinafter referred to as the Senate.

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1. The Senate shall discharge the functions mandated by the *Statutes* of the University of Illinois and shall undertake such additional legislative and advisory functions concerning educational policy and other governance matters as are consistent with the *Statutes*.

Section 2. The Senate shall seek to represent the academic concerns of the faculty and students of the Campus.

ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. The Senate membership consists of two hundred faculty members, fifty student members, and three academic professional members elected as specified in the Senate *Bylaws*.

Section 2. Eligibility requirements for all members are specified in the Senate *Bylaws*.

Section 3. Faculty members will be elected for three-year terms, student members for one-year terms, and academic professional members for three-year terms. Student members may not be elected to more than three consecutive terms.

Section 4. Eligibility for voting in Senate member elections is specified in the Senate *Bylaws*.

Section 5. A Senator must be present at a Senate meeting to vote.

ARTICLE IV: OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer shall be an elected faculty Senator whose election shall be prescribed in the Senate *Bylaws*. The Presiding Officer shall chair all Senate meetings. The Presiding Officer shall provide for regular transmittal of Senate actions to appropriate officers and agencies. The Presiding Officer shall secure the services of a Parliamentarian. In the absence of the Presiding Officer from the chair, the Secretary of the Senate, or his or her designee, shall preside.

Section 2. The Secretary of the Senate. The Secretary of the Senate shall be a faculty Senator elected annually as prescribed in the *Bylaws*. The Secretary shall facilitate and oversee the work of the entire Senate and shall oversee the operation of the Office of the Senate. The Secretary of the Senate shall chair the Senate Executive Committee.

Section 3. The Vice Chair of the Senate. The Vice Chair shall assist the Secretary in the performance of his/her responsibilities and shall chair the Executive Committee in the absence of the Secretary.

Section 4. Office of the Senate. The Chancellor shall provide for an Office of the Senate and a Clerk of this Office.

Section 5. The Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of 18 members, elected as specified in the Senate *Bylaws*. The Executive Committee shall manage the business of the Senate.

Section 6. The Agenda Committee. The Agenda Committee shall consist of the Presiding Officer, the Secretary, and the Vice Chair of the Senate. The Agenda Committee shall recommend the agenda of the Senate to the Executive Committee and shall fix the agenda of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE V: SENATE BYLAWS

Section 1. For the purpose of implementing the provisions of this *Constitution* and to provide for the internal organization of the Senate, the Senate shall enact such bylaws as it deems necessary and proper, provided that they are consistent with this *Constitution* and the *University Statutes*.

Section 2. The *Bylaws* of the Senate require a two-thirds vote to adopt or change.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS

Section 1. The *Constitution* may be amended. A proposed amendment (hereinafter referred to as a proposal) shall be reported to the Senate when initiated by a Senate committee or by a group of at least twenty Senators. A proposal initiated by fewer than twenty Senators must obtain the support of a Senate committee before being reported to the Senate.

Section 2. A proposal shall be considered in three steps:

- a. Step 1. First, the proposal shall be introduced to the Senate, after due notice as been given, for initial discussion and Senate referral to the Senate Committee charged with constitutional matters. The committee shall review the proposal and shall prepare the form of the proposal together with its recommendation for presentation to the Senate at a subsequent meeting for Step 2.
- b. Step 2. The Committee shall present its version of the proposal and shall invite discussion and perfection by amendments(s). This meeting and any subsequent meeting(s) at which amendments to the proposal are accepted by the Senate shall constitute Step 2.
- c. Step 3. At a meeting no earlier than fourteen calendar days following a Step 2 meeting, the Senate may vote to adopt the proposal. If at this meeting any amendment to the proposal is accepted by the Senate, the meeting must be considered a part of Step 2, and Step 3 much proceed as described above. Adoption of the proposal shall require a two-thirds majority. In accordance with the *University Statutes*, the amendment must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the University before it takes effect.

Section 3. The Senate may provide for a comprehensive review of its size, organization, structure and operation by a commission composed of members of the faculty and student electorates and administrative officials. The commission shall report its findings and make appropriate recommendations. The report of the commission shall be made public and distributed, as are other reports of the Senate. The first report shall be submitted not later than three years after the first election held under this constitution.

ARTICLE VII: ENACTMENT

The provisions of this *Constitution* shall become effective when adopted on second reading by a two-thirds vote of the Senate at a regular Senate meeting and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Approved by the UIC Senate, April 25, 2002

Approved by the University Board of Trustees, May 15, 2003

As amended by the Board of Trustees on January 18, 2007