



## Senate Handbook

University Governance Orientation: Part 2 of 2



## Introduction

The *Senate Handbook* is the second part of the orientation materials available from the Governance Office for members of the University of Saskatchewan's Senate. The first part of the materials is the *Orientation to University Governance*, which should be read in conjunction with this *Senate Handbook*.

The *Orientation to University Governance* document covers the following topics:

- The *Mission, Vision and Values* of the University of Saskatchewan (USask)
- An overview of the university's governance, administration and organizational structures
- Tricameral governance at USask
- The main responsibilities of members of the governing bodies
- Appendices include the university's *Strategic Plan: 2025*, *The University of Saskatchewan Act 1995*, and contact information for the Governance Office.

The *Senate Handbook* contains descriptions of, and links to, information about the following:

- The role of Senate members
- Meeting information
- Procedures and guidelines, including Senate Bylaws
- Membership information

## Contact Information

Name	Position	Email address	Phone
Chelsea Willness	University Secretary & Chief Governance Officer	willness@usask.ca	966-6253
Lesley Leonhardt	Executive Assistant (Senate)	lesley.leonhardt@usask.ca	966-4632
Sheena Tait-Rowan	Manager, Board Services	sheena.rowan@usask.ca	966-4635
Amanda Storey	Academic Governance and Hearings Advisor	amanda.storey@usask.ca	966-5036
Jacquie Thomarat	Assoc. Secretary, Academic Governance	jacquie.thomarat@usask.ca	966-2561
Michelle Kjargaard	Administrative Assistant	michelle.kjargaard@usask.ca	966-6253

***Please note that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all office staff are currently working remotely, thus we respectfully request that members use email for communication whenever possible.***

Governance Office  
E290 Administration Building  
105 Administration Place  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2

Telephone: (306) 966-6253 Fax: (306) 966-4458

## Links to important Senate documents

### **STATUTORY POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF SENATE**

The list of powers and responsibilities in the above document are excerpted from *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*, and outline the legislated limits, purpose and scope of Senate.

### **MEETINGS**

Please use the links below to access information pertaining to meetings. This will ensure that all dates and deadlines remain accurate and up-to-date at all times.

Schedule and deadlines – here you can access a schedule of the upcoming Senate meetings for the next calendar year, as well as deadlines for submitting committee materials, etc.

Agenda and minutes – this link will take you to the current/next upcoming meeting agenda, as well as past meeting agendas and minutes.

Expense reimbursement – should you incur any expenses (e.g., travel for in-person meetings), kindly use this link to access the latest policy information regarding expenses.

### **PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES**

This section contains critically important information to guide you in your role as a Senator. The Bylaws are written and amended by Senate and used to regulate the affairs of this governing body. The Bylaws include information on meetings, membership, committees and other rules used to govern the Senate. The Rules of Order are based on *Procedures for Meetings and Organizations, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* by Kerr & King (1996), which is the formally adopted guidebook for meeting procedures, and covers debate, how to make and amend motions, and meeting decorum.

The Senate Bylaws and Rules of Order are included in this document and links to these and others on the Governance Office website are below.

Senate Bylaws

Senate Rules of Order

Guidelines for Honorary Degrees

Guidelines for Submitting a Motion

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Members and Districts

Criteria for assessing eligibility for membership of organizations on Senate



## **SENATE BYLAWS**

(April 28, 2001 with revisions April 2002, April 2003, October 2008, October 2009, April 2010, April 2012, October 2013, April 2014, October 2014, April 2017, April 2018)

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## PREAMBLE

As one of the university's three governing bodies under the *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*, the Senate has both statutory authority and a role in providing advice to the university's administration, Council and Board of Governors (see Appendix D).

The Senate comprises appointed, elected and ex officio members who are broadly representative of graduates from across the geographic regions of the province; professional, educational and cultural organizations with an interest in the university; students; and members of the university's administration. Whether elected, appointed, or ex officio, the members of Senate have the following responsibilities:

- to attend Senate meetings;
- to participate diligently and use fair and independent judgement in discussions, decisions, and planning activities;
- to take an active role in fostering openness and trust among members of Senate, the administration, the faculty, the staff, the students, all levels of government, and the public;
- to contribute to the effectiveness and orderly functioning of the Senate.

Senate members also share with members of the university's other governing bodies the following responsibilities:

- to abide by the policies of the university;
- to seek to be fully informed about the university, its mission, its strategic plan, its culture, and its role in the province and in higher education;
- to help the university be responsive to the changing environment that affects it;
- to promote and defend the autonomy of the university;
- to find opportunities to communicate the university's role and mission to the external community.

The Senate serves as the university's window on the province and the province's window on the university.

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**I. DEFINITIONS**

1. "Act" means the *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*;
2. "Board" means The Board of Governors of the University of Saskatchewan;
3. "Bylaws" means the bylaws of the university and includes, the bylaws of the Senate, the bylaws of the Board and the bylaws of the Council;
4. "Chancellor" means the Chancellor of the University;
5. "Convocation" means the Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan with membership, pursuant to section 10 of the University Act, to include the Chancellor, the Senate, and all graduates of the University;
6. "Convocation list" means the names and addresses of all members of Convocation;
7. "Council" means The University of Saskatchewan Council;
8. "Executive" means the Executive Committee of the Senate;
9. "Ex officio" means a person who holds office because of his/her position;
10. "Minister" means the member of the Executive Council of the Provincial Government to whom for the time being the administration of the University of Saskatchewan Act is assigned;
11. "President" means the University of Saskatchewan President;
12. "Secretary" means the University of Saskatchewan Secretary;
13. "Senate" means the University of Saskatchewan Senate;
14. "University" means the University of Saskatchewan.

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**II. MEMBERSHIP OF SENATE**

1. The following persons are members of Senate by reason of their office:
  - (a) The present and former Chancellors;
  - (b) The President and the Vice-President or Vice-Presidents of the University;
  - (c) The Minister;
  - (d) The Deputy Minister of the department over which the Minister presides;
  - (e) The Chairperson of the Education Council continued pursuant to *The Education Act*;
  - (f) The principals of federated or affiliated colleges of the University;
  - (g) The deans or acting deans of colleges that are established by the University;
  - (h) Any other deans of academic and students affairs and directors who are nominated by the President and approved by the Senate.
2. 14 members elected by the Convocation to represent electoral districts established by the Senate;
3. 14 members-at-large elected by the Convocation;
4. Six students who are registered in colleges other than the College of Graduate Studies and Research and who are elected by students registered in those colleges;
5. One student who is registered in the College of Graduate Studies and Research and who is elected by students registered in that college; and
6. One representative from each professional society or other organizations admitted in accordance with the provisions of Section XIII of the Bylaws.

**III. ELECTIONS AND MEMBERS OF SENATE**

1. With the exceptions of students, ex officio and appointed members, election of members of Senate and appointment or reappointment of the Chancellor shall be completed by June 30 in every year in which an election is required to be held. Where this part provides for a second call for nominations, the timing of the deadline for nomination and election of the members shall be at the discretion of the

Secretary. The following table summarizes dates for nominations, elections and start and length of terms for members of Senate:

	Chancellor	Elected Members Districts (14)	Elected Members At Large (14)	Students (6+1)	Appointed Members (Professional Societies & Organizations)	Ex Officio
Deadline for nomination	January 15	March 1	March 1	N/A	N/A	N/A
Election/ appointment to be finalized by:	Spring meeting of Senate	June 30	June 30	N/A	N/A	N/A
Start of term	July 1	July 1	July 1	May 1	*July 1	Upon appointment
Length of term	3 years	3 years	3 years	1 year	3 years	Duration of appointment
One renewable term	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A

\*Or date of appointment.

The Secretary shall be responsible to distribute the necessary information for the election of members of the Senate, or as may be required by resolution of the Senate.

## 2. Appointment or reappointment of Chancellor

### Eligibility

(a) Members of Senate are eligible to vote to appoint or reappoint the Chancellor.

### Submission of Candidates for Nominations

(a) The names of candidates for nomination to the position of Chancellor must be proposed in writing, endorsed by 7 members of Convocation, and submitted to the Secretary. The submission must include the written consent of the person being proposed.

(b) Only persons who have been members of the Convocation for at least 10 years prior to the date for filing submissions are eligible to be appointed as Chancellor.

### Appointment or reappointment

(a) The Chancellor is required to advise if he or she is willing to serve a second term by June 30 in the second year of his or her first term.

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- (b) If the current Chancellor is willing to be reappointed for a second term, the Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor will consider whether or not he or she should be recommended for reappointment. If the recommendation is for reappointment, the committee will recommend to Senate that the Chancellor be reappointed for a second term with no other nominations taken.
  - (c) A call for nominations for Chancellor will be sent to Convocation on or before November 30 in the event:
    - (i) the Chancellor is not willing to serve a second term;
    - (ii) the Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor does not recommend reappointment; or
    - (iii) it is the final year of the Chancellor's second term.

In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chancellor, or if it is known there will be a vacancy in the academic year, a call for nominations for Chancellor will be sent to Convocation as soon as is reasonable.

- (d) The Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor will recommend one person to the Senate for appointment as Chancellor.
  - (e) The nominee shall be appointed or reappointed by a majority vote at a duly constituted meeting of the Senate, on the recommendation of the Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor, in accordance with Section 17 of the Act.
  - (f) If the nomination is not approved by a majority of those voting, then the Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor will be asked to put forward an alternative nomination at the next meeting of the Senate.
3. Election of Members of Districts

- (a) The boundaries of the 14 electoral districts are as set forth in Appendix A, and may from time to time be amended by Senate.
- (b) Only one member of Senate is to be elected from each electoral district pursuant to section 24 (2) of the Act.

#### Eligibility

Only members of Convocation residing in the electoral district are eligible to vote for the member of Senate to represent the electoral district.

#### Nominations

- (a) To be valid, a nomination for a District Member of Senate must be in writing and endorsed by 3 members of Convocation. The nomination must include the written consent of the person being nominated.
- (b) The nominee must be a resident of that District.

Election

If only one person is nominated from an electoral district, the Secretary shall declare that person elected.

Second Call for Nominations

If there is no person nominated from one or more electoral district(s), the Secretary shall make a second call for nominations.

4. Election of Members-at-LargeEligibility

All members of Convocation are eligible to vote for Members-at-Large.

Nominations

To be valid, a nomination for a member of Senate must be in writing and endorsed by three members of Convocation. The nomination must include the written consent of the person being nominated.

Election

If the number of persons nominated is equal to the number of members to be elected, the Secretary shall declare those persons elected.

Second Call for Nominations

If the number of persons nominated is less than the number of members to be elected, the Secretary shall make a second call for nominations for the remaining positions.

5. Election by Senate of Members to the Board of Governors

The process for electing members to the Board of Governors shall be as follows:

- (a) The election shall occur in a meeting of the Senate.
- (b) At least three months prior to the meeting at which the election is to be held, the University Secretary will issue a call to all Senators to nominate candidates. The call will be accompanied by a description of the desired qualifications and qualities ascertained through the consultations conducted by the Executive Committee pursuant to Section V 2(d)(viii) of these bylaws.
- (c) All nominations shall be:
  - (i) submitted to the Nominations Committee no later than 45 days before the meeting in which the election is to take place;
  - (ii) accompanied by relevant biographical information on the candidate and the consent of the candidate to the nomination;

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- (iii) signed by three members of Senate, except for the nomination(s) submitted by the Executive Committee pursuant to Section V 2(d)(viii) of these bylaws.
  - (d) Candidates may or may not be members of Senate.
  - (e) All candidates nominated in accordance with Section III 5(c) of these bylaws will be presented by Nominations Committee for election along with a biography of each candidate. The Nominations Committee will not disclose the nominators of the candidates, including the candidate(s) nominated by the Executive Committee.
  - (f) In the event that more than one candidate is nominated, the election shall be held by secret ballot. The University Secretary will administer and oversee the voting procedures for the meeting, in accordance with Appendix E.
  - (g) Subject to Section III 6 of these bylaws, the winner of the election shall be the candidate who receives at least 50% + 1 of the votes cast at the meeting in accordance with the voting procedures set out in Appendix E.
  - (h) A separate nomination call and a separate election shall be held for each of the members of Board of Governors being elected by Senate, though both elections can occur in the same meeting.
6. Equality of Votes
- In the case of equality of votes for a member of Senate, and the member of the Board of Governors being elected by Senate, the Secretary, in the presence of scrutineers, shall determine by lot the person to be declared elected.
7. Students
- (a) Six students shall be elected by students registered in Colleges other than the College of Graduate Studies and Research. The election procedures shall be determined by the students.
  - (b) One student registered in the College of Graduate Studies and Research shall be elected by students registered in that College. The election procedures shall be determined by the students in the College of Graduate Studies and Research.
8. Appointed Members
- One representative appointed by each professional society or other organization which has been granted membership.
9. Ex Officio

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Persons who are members of the Senate by virtue of their office pursuant to Section 24(1) (a) of the Act, and those nominated by the President as provided in Section II 1.(h) of the Bylaws and approved by Senate.

10. Appeals and Complaints

- (a) All appeals and complaints respecting the election of members of the Senate of the University shall be in writing, and shall be filed with the Secretary within thirty days after the declaration of election provided for in Section 38 of the Act.
- (b) Every appeal or complaint shall be signed by at least three members of Convocation and shall in each case set out the reasons for appeal or the grounds of complaint.
- (c) Every such appeal or complaint shall be heard and finally determined by a committee of the Senate to be called the Membership Committee.
- (d) The Committee may make such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary for carrying out the provisions of the complaints and appeals.

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**IV. MEETINGS OF THE SENATE**

1. There shall be a meeting of the Senate in the spring and in the fall, at a time and place to be indicated in a public notice sent by the Secretary to each member at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.
  - (a) The spring meeting shall be no later than Spring Convocation. The fall meeting shall be no later than Fall Convocation.
  - (b) The Senate Executive Committee shall meet as necessary at a time and place to be determined by the Chair.
  - (c) For procedural matters not addressed by these bylaws, the meetings of the Senate will be conducted in accordance with the rules of order contained in the most recent edition of *Procedures for Meetings and Organizations* by Kerr and King.
2. There shall be public notice of each regular meeting and meetings will be open to members of the University community, the general public and the news media as visitors and without voice. Confidential items, as determined by the Senate, will be considered during a closed part of the meeting. The Secretary will be responsible for release of the public notice of the meetings.
3.
  - (a) The Chair may, and shall, whenever so requested in writing by at least twenty-five members, call a special meeting of the Senate. Such request shall state the purpose of the meeting called.
  - (b) Notice in writing stating the purpose of such special meeting shall be sent by the Secretary to each member at least ten days before the date thereof.
4. Fifty members shall constitute a quorum for any meeting of the Senate.
5. With the notice of any meeting a copy of the agenda and the agenda papers to be considered at the meeting, shall be sent to each member.
6. Notice of any motion to be submitted at a meeting by a member of Senate, other than a motion arising out of the business of the meeting, shall be given to the Secretary 30 days prior to that meeting to enable the Executive Committee to determine whether said motion shall be added to the agenda of the meeting. If the Executive Committee refuses to place the motion on the agenda, at the request of the member, the motion and supporting materials shall be made available to Senate prior to the meeting.
7. Any member of Senate may request that a motion be placed on the agenda at that meeting of Senate. The motion will be added to the agenda if passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by the members entitled to vote.
8. Normally, voting shall be by show of hands at the meeting unless a ballot vote is requested by a simple majority of the votes cast by the members entitled to vote.

9. In lieu of a meeting, a vote may be taken by mail or electronically on the initiative of the Executive Committee.
  - (a) A decision by mail or electronic vote shall require a 60% return of ballots and a 2/3 majority of those voting is required to constitute a majority.
  - (b) Fifteen days from date of mailing shall be allowed to complete a vote by mail.
  - (c) Seven days from date of notice of the electronic vote shall be allowed to complete an electronic vote.

## V. COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

50% of the members of any Committee constitute quorum for a meeting of the Committee. A member joining a committee meeting, with the consent of the Chair, by teleconference or other electronic media which permit all persons participating to hear one another, shall be considered to be present. A call for Nominations from the floor of each Committee shall be made prior to election by the Senate.

### 1. Nominations Committee

The members of the Nominations Committee shall be nominated by the Executive Committee and elected annually by Senate.

#### (a) Membership

The Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) The Chair of the Executive Committee or a designate from the Executive Committee;
- (ii) Four members of Senate; and
- (iii) The Secretary (non-voting member).

#### (b) Term

The term of a Senate member on the Committee is one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years. The term of the Chairperson will be one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years for a maximum of three years.

#### (c) Chair

The Chairperson shall be appointed on the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

#### (d) Duties and Powers

- (i) To recommend annually to the spring meeting of the Senate individuals for membership on the Executive Committee.
- (ii) To recommend annually at the spring meeting of Senate individuals for membership on, and chairs of other standing committees of Senate, and Senate representatives on other committees.
- (iii) To make appointments to standing committees of Senate and for Senate representation on other committees when vacancies arise between meetings of the Senate, and to report these to Senate at its next meeting.
- (iv) In the final year of the Chancellor's term, to recommend to the fall meeting of the Senate individuals for appointment to a joint nominations committee for Chancellor.
- (v) In the event of a vacancy in the office of the Chancellor or if it is known there will be a vacancy within the academic year, to recommend to the next meeting of the Senate individuals for appointment to the joint nominations committee for Chancellor.
- (vi) To receive nominations from the members of Senate and from the Executive Committee for members of the Board of Governors to be elected by Senate, and to present the nominees for election by the Senate, and to establish procedures for presenting background information on the nominees to Senators prior to the election.
- (vii) To nominate a roster of eight (8) members of Senate to serve for three years, from which members may be selected to serve on Boards for Student Discipline and Appeal Boards.
- (viii) To nominate two (2) members of Senate to serve on University Council pursuant to section 54(j) of the *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* as non-voting members for a one year term, renewable annually for up to two additional years to a maximum of three years.

## 2. Executive Committee

The Senate members of the Executive Committee shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate.

### (a) Membership

The Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) The Chancellor;
- (ii) The President or a designate;
- (iii) Two ex officio members of Senate;
- (iv) Three appointed members of Senate;
- (v) Three elected members of Senate;
- (vi) One student member selected annually by the student members of Senate; and
- (vii) The Secretary (non-voting member).

### (b) Term

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The term of a Senate member on the Committee is one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years. The Chancellor and President are members for the duration of their terms.

(c) Chair

The Chancellor shall serve as Chair and the President shall serve as Vice-Chair.

(d) Duties and Powers

- (i) To determine the agenda for all meetings of Senate.
  - a. In determining whether to add to the agenda a motion proposed by a member of Senate pursuant to Section IV 6 of these bylaws, the Executive Committee shall consider the powers of Senate as set out in Section 23 of *The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*, as may be amended from time to time.
  - b. The Executive Committee may refuse to place said motion on the agenda if it clearly appears that the motion submitted is primarily for the purpose of enforcing a personal claim or redressing a personal grievance against the University, any employee, officer or director of the University, or any body of the University, or primarily for the purpose of promoting causes unrelated to the activities of the University.
- (ii) To appoint task forces or special committees composed of members of Senate with power to investigate and report on matters of interest and concern to Senate.
- (iii) To consider all major reports being submitted to Senate.
- (iv) To consider and report on policy matters relating to the Senate.
- (v) To perform other duties as the Senate may from time to time direct.
- (vi) To recommend to Senate individuals for membership on the various Boards of Examiners for Professional Examinations; and to recommend to Senate on matters of policy with respect to Boards of Examiners, and on the establishment of new Boards of Examiners, when necessary.
- (vii) To act on behalf of Senate in special circumstances to provide approval of honorary degrees.
- (viii) To consult, through the Chancellor and the President with the Chair of the Board of Governors to ascertain the qualifications and qualities most needed by the Board when a vacancy arises, and to present at least one nomination to the Nominations Committee in accordance with the process set out in Section III 5 of these bylaws.

3. The Membership Committee

The Senate members of the Membership Committee shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate.

(a) Membership

The Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) Chair of the Executive Committee or a designate from the Executive Committee;
- (ii) Four elected members of Senate who shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate; and
- (iii) The Secretary (non-voting member).

(b) Term

The term of a Senate member on the Committee is for one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years. The term of the Chair will be one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years for a maximum of three years.

(c) Chair

The Chair shall be appointed on the recommendation of the Nominations Committee.

(d) Duties and Powers

- (i) To consider applications for membership from associations on the Senate and make recommendations thereon to the Senate and to recommend the removal of associations from Senate.
- (ii) To hear appeals and complaints respecting the election of members of Senate as shall be appropriately filed with the Secretary, pursuant to Section III of these Bylaws.
- (iii) To review and update, as necessary, the Senate Bylaws respecting affiliation and federation, and make recommendations thereon to the Senate.
- (iv) To receive proposals respecting the affiliation or federation of any educational institutions with the University and make recommendations thereon to the Senate.

4. Honorary Degrees Committee

The Senate members of the Honorary Degrees Committee shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate.

(a) Membership

Membership on the Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) The Chancellor;
- (ii) The President;
- (iii) The Provost and Vice-President (Academic);

- (iv) Two ex officio members;
- (v) Two appointed members of Senate;
- (vi) Two elected members of Senate;
- (vii) One student member of Senate; and
- (viii) The Secretary (non-voting member).

(b) Term

The term of a Senate member on the Committee is one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years for a maximum of three years. The Chancellor, President and Provost are members for the duration of their terms as long as they hold office.

(c) Chair

The President will serve as Chair and the Chancellor as Vice-Chair.

(d) Duties and Powers

- (i) To encourage nominations and recommend nominees for honorary degrees.
- (ii) To submit names to the Senate for consideration at its next meeting or in special circumstances to the Executive Committee for consideration between Senate meetings.

5. Board for Student Discipline and Appeal Board

A roster of eight (8) members of Senate shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected by Senate to serve for three years on the Board for Student Discipline and Appeal Board.

6. Round Table on Outreach and Engagement

(a) Membership

Membership on the Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) The President
- (ii) Four District Senators (Regional Advisory Council Chairs) nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected by Senate;
- (iii) Four members of the General Academic Assembly appointed by Council
- (iv) Four staff members involved in Outreach and Engagement appointed by the President
- (v) Four Community Leaders appointed by the President
- (vi) One Undergraduate student appointed by the USSU

- (vii) Vice-President University Advancement or designate to serve as Secretary (non-voting member)

(b) Term

The term of a Senate member on the Committee is for one year, renewable annually for an additional two years up to a maximum of three years.

(c) Chair

The President will serve as Chair. The Committee will choose a Vice-Chair.

(d) Duties and Powers

- (i) Nurture and support the University's outreach and engagement efforts.
- (ii) Convene a university-community symposium on engagement, with broad participation from many communities and parts of campus.
- (iii) Honour and celebrate existing initiatives.
- (iv) Build awareness and understanding of the concept of engagement.
- (v) Begin the process of identifying future areas of need and priority.
- (vi) Invite leading public scholars to share their experiences in Outreach and Engagement with the Round Table.
- (vii) Sponsor community lectures and/or workshops.
- (viii) Sponsor clinics to support the work of faculty involved in Outreach and Engagement activities.
- (ix) Submit regular reports to Council.
- (x) Submit regular reports to Senate.

7. Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor

(a) Membership

In accordance with Section 17 of the *University of Saskatchewan Act 1995*, the committee shall be composed of three members of the Senate and two members of the Board. The Board shall be invited to nominate two persons. The members of the Senate shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee as follows:

- (i) The President, in his/her capacity as vice-chancellor and vice-chair of the Senate.
- (ii) Two members of the Senate who have been elected under Section 24(1)(b) or 24(1)(c) of the *Act*. (i.e. elected Senators) nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate.

(b) Term

The Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor will be struck in the spring of the second year of the Chancellor's term, or in the event of a vacancy in the

office of Chancellor, or if it is known there will be a vacancy in the academic year. Members' terms will coincide with the selection process for the Chancellor.

(c) Chair

The Joint Nomination Committee for Chancellor shall determine its own procedures and shall select its chair from among the five members of the committee.

(d) Duties and Powers

- (i) To invite submissions for candidates for nomination for the position of Chancellor from members of Convocation.
- (ii) To review the submissions and select one name for presentation to the Senate at the spring meeting prior to the expiry of the incumbent Chancellor's term; or in the case of an unplanned vacancy at the next meeting of the Senate.
- (iii) If the name of the proposed candidate in (ii) above is not accepted by the Senate, to put forward an alternative nomination no later than the next meeting of the Senate.
- (iv) To determine if a Chancellor wishing to sit a second term should be recommended for reappointment.

8. Education Committee

The members of the Education Committee shall be nominated by the Nominations Committee and elected annually by Senate.

(a) Membership

Membership on the Committee shall be composed of:

- (i) 2 ex-officio members of Senate;
- (ii) 2 appointed members of Senate;
- (iii) 2 elected members of Senate;
- (iv) 1 student member selected annually by the Student Members of Senate;
- (v) The Secretary (non-voting member).

(b) Term

The term of a Senate member on the Committee is for one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years, for a maximum of three years. The term of the Chair will be one year, renewable annually for up to two additional years for a maximum of three years.

(c) Chair

The Chair shall be selected by the members of the Committee.

- (d) Duties and Powers
  - (i) To consult with the Executive Committee respecting formation of the agenda.
  - (ii) To provide at each meeting of Senate an opportunity for education/exploration of issues relating to the University of Saskatchewan.
  - (iii) To poll Senators regarding their interests in issues relating to (ii) above.

## **VI. HONORARY DEGREES**

1. The following Honorary Degrees may be granted by the University:

Doctor of Civil Law, honoris causa – D.C.L.  
Doctor of Laws, honoris causa – LL.D  
Doctor of Science, honoris causa – D.Sc.  
Doctor of Letters, honoris causa – D.Litt

2. Degrees *honoris causa* may be conferred at any Convocation provided that the names of such persons shall have been considered and approved by the Committee on Honorary Degrees, and shall have been recommended by the Senate.
3. The Senate may revoke an honorary degree and all the rights and privileges connected therewith.

## **VII. DISESTABLISHMENT**

Decisions of the University Council to authorize the disestablishment of any college, school, department, chair, institute or endowed chair are to be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. Such decisions are not to be implemented until either the Senate confirms the decision or 12 months have passed following the end of the fiscal year in which the decision was made, whichever is the earlier.

## **VIII. ADMISSION AND CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS**

1. Decisions of the University Council to change the number of students who may be admitted to any college or program of study are to be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. Such decisions are not to be implemented until either the Senate confirms the decision or 12 months have passed following the end of the fiscal year in which the decision was made, whichever is the earlier.
2. Decisions of University Council to change academic and other qualifications required for admission as a student are to be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. Such decisions are not to be implemented until either the Senate confirms the decision or 12 months have passed following the end of the fiscal year in which the decision was made, whichever is the earlier.

**IX. AFFILIATION**

1. Proposals respecting the affiliation of any educational institution with the University will be referred to the Membership Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Senate, which will upon resolution advise the Board and the Council whether or not the proposed affiliation should be accepted.
2. The Senate may consider and recommend to the Board and the Council whether or not any affiliation of the University with another educational institution should be dissolved.
3. Decisions of the University Council to authorize the dissolution of any affiliation are to be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. Such decisions are not to be implemented until either the Senate confirms the decision or 12 months have passed following the end of the fiscal year in which the decision was made, whichever is the earlier.

**X. FEDERATION**

1. Proposals respecting the federation of any educational institution with the University will be referred to the Membership Committee for consideration and recommendation to the Senate, which will upon resolution advise the Board and the Council whether or not the proposed federation should be accepted.
2. The Senate may consider and recommend to the Board and the Council whether or not any federation of the university with another educational institution should be dissolved.
3. Decisions of the University Council to authorize the dissolution of any federation are to be reported to the Senate at its next meeting. Such decisions are not to be implemented until either the Senate confirms the decision or 12 months have passed following the end of the fiscal year in which the decision was made, whichever is the earlier.

**XI. REPRESENTATION OF PROFESSIONAL ENTITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS**

1. Pursuant to Section 24 (3) of the Act, Senate may consider for membership professional societies groups, or other organizations that:
  - (a) contribute in a significant way to the social, economic and cultural welfare of Saskatchewan; and
  - (b) have a demonstrated interest in furthering the goals of higher education and research at the university.
2. Each of the professional societies, groups organizations and entities granted membership shall in any year in which a representative is to be appointed or in which a vacancy arises, appoint such a representative.

3. Such appointment shall be certified to by the President or Secretary of the professional society, group, organization or entity and a notice of appointment shall be forwarded to the Secretary.
4. Membership on Senate shall be as set out in Appendix B and reviewed at regular intervals by the Membership Committee in accordance with Section 24 (4) of the Act.

## **XII. PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS**

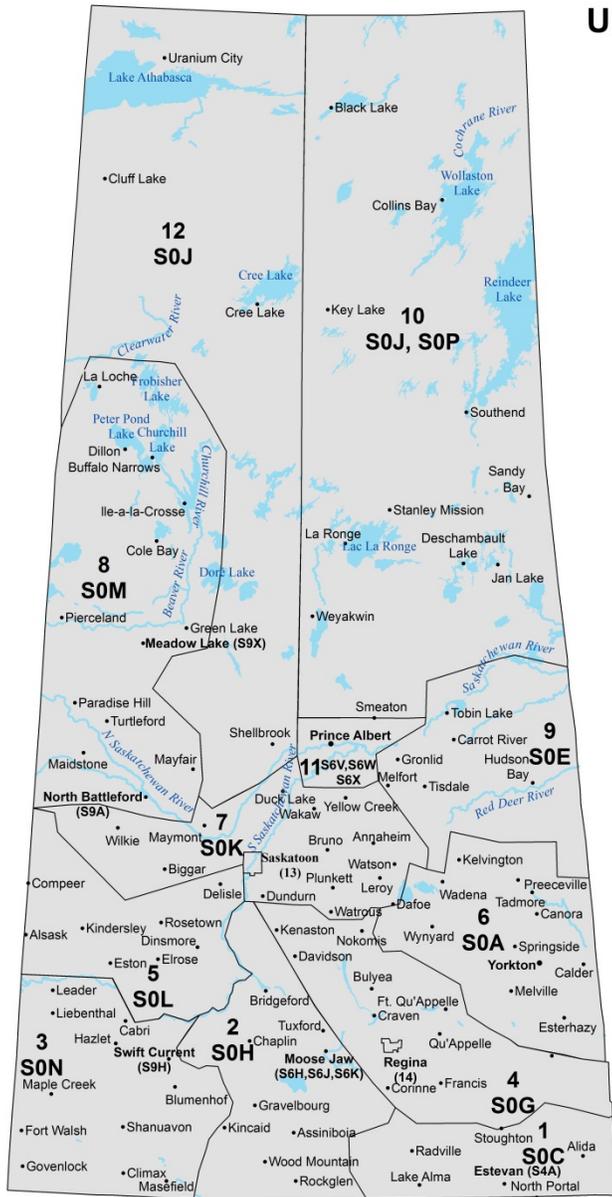
1. Appointments of examiners for professional societies or other bodies as required by any Act, shall be for at least one year and until their successors are appointed. Examiners shall be eligible for reappointment unless there is express provision to the contrary.
2. The Registrar of the University or an assigned deputy shall be the Secretary of each Board of Examiners.

## **XIII. ADVISORY COUNCILS**

1. The Senate may authorize the establishment of an advisory council for any college, school or department and determine the composition, duties and powers of an advisory council.
2. The Senate may discontinue an advisory council for any college, school or department.

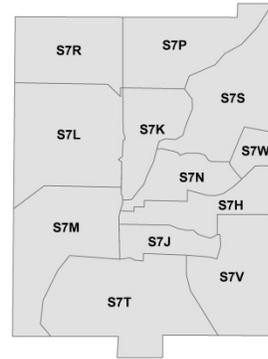
**APPENDIX A**

Map of Boundaries of the 14 Senate Districts

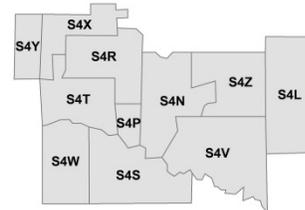


**University Senate Districts**

**Saskatoon (District 13)**



**Regina (District 14)**



Cartography Section  
The Spatial Initiative  
University of Saskatchewan

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**APPENDIX B****Organizations represented on Senate**

Each of the following professional societies, groups, organizations and entities shall be entitled to one representative on the Senate:

1. The Institute of Chartered Professional Accountants of Saskatchewan
2. The Saskatchewan Association of Architects
3. The College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan
4. The Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Saskatchewan
5. The Saskatchewan College of Pharmacy Professionals
6. The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan
7. The Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists
8. The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities
9. The Saskatchewan School Boards Association
10. The Saskatchewan Registered Nurses Association
11. The Saskatchewan Veterinary Medical Association
12. The Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers' Association
13. The Saskatchewan Association of Optometrists
14. The University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association
15. The Saskatchewan Dieticians Association
16. The Association of Saskatchewan Home Economists
17. The Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce
18. The Chiropractors' Association of Saskatchewan
19. The Saskatchewan College of Psychologists
20. The Provincial Council of Women of Saskatchewan
21. Saskatchewan Physiotherapy Association
22. The Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
23. Saskatchewan Professional Planners Institute
24. The Ukrainian Canadian Congress (Saskatchewan Provincial Council)
25. The University of Regina Alumni Association
26. Saskatchewan League of Educational Administrators, Directors and Superintendents (LEADS)
27. Saskatchewan Women's Institutes
28. Association of Saskatchewan Regional Colleges
29. Saskatchewan Association of School Councils
30. Interior Designers Association of Saskatchewan
31. Saskatchewan Society of Occupational Therapists
32. Saskatchewan Association of Recreation Professionals
33. Saskatchewan Library Trustees' Association
34. The Law Society of Saskatchewan
35. Canadian Federation of University Women (Sask. Council)
36. Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation
37. Registered Psychiatric Nurses' Association of Saskatchewan
38. Assemblée Communautaire Fransakoise
39. Canadian Arts Representation (CARFAC SASK)
40. Metis Nation – Saskatchewan
41. Nature Saskatchewan
42. Saskatchewan Arts Board
43. Saskatchewan Environmental Society
44. Saskatchewan Federation of Labour
45. Saskatchewan Urban Municipalities Association (SUMA)
46. Saskatchewan Writers' Guild

**APPENDIX C**

**Affiliated, Federated and Junior Colleges**

The following colleges are affiliated with the University:

1. College of Emmanuel and St. Chad
2. Lutheran Theological Seminary
3. St. Andrew's College
4. Horizon College and Seminary
5. Gabriel Dumont College of Metis Studies and Applied Research
6. Briercrest College and Seminary

The following college is federated with the University:

1. St. Thomas More College

The following college is a Junior College affiliated with the University:

1. St. Peter's College

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**APPENDIX D****Appendix D - Section 23 of the *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*****Powers of senate**

23 The senate may:

- (a) regulate the conduct of its meetings and proceedings;
- (b) determine the quorum necessary to transact business;
- (c) hear any reports that may be provided for by this Act and the bylaws of the senate;
- (d) consider and take action on all matters reported to it by the board, council or assembly;
- (e) appoint scrutineers for the counting of the votes for the election of the elected members of the senate;
- (f) make bylaws respecting the discipline of students for any reason other than academic dishonesty, including bylaws providing for the admonishing, dismissing, suspending or expelling of students or the imposition of fines on students;
- (g) appoint examiners for, and make bylaws respecting, the conduct of examinations for professional societies or other bodies if the university or any of its agencies is required or authorized by any Act to do so;
- (h) establish any committees of its members that it considers necessary;
- (i) provide for the granting of honorary degrees;
- (j) receive proposals respecting the establishment of any college, school, department or institute and recommend to the board and the council whether or not the proposed college, school, department or institute should be established;
- (k) receive proposals respecting the affiliation or federation of any educational institution with the university and recommend to the board and the council whether or not the proposed affiliation or federation should be made;
- (l) consider and recommend to the board and the council whether or not any college, school, department or institute should be disestablished or any affiliation or federation of the university with another educational institution should be dissolved because of lack of relevance to the province;
- (m) authorize the establishment of an advisory council for any college, school or department and prescribe or alter the composition, duties and powers of an advisory council, whether established before or after the coming into force of this Act;
- (n) discontinue an advisory council for any college, school or department;
- (o) recommend to the board or the council any matters or things that the senate considers necessary to promote the interests of the university or to carry out the purposes of this Act;
- (p) request the board or the council to report to it on any matter over which the senate has authority;
- (q) appoint members to committees composed of members of the senate and members of all or any of the board, council and assembly;
- (r) subject to sections 24 to 28, make bylaws governing the election of members of the senate;
- (r.1) subject to section 17, make bylaws governing the nomination and appointment of the chancellor;
- (s) make bylaws respecting any matter over which it has responsibility; and
- (t) do any other thing that the senate considers necessary, incidental or conducive to exercising its powers, to promoting the best interests of the university or to meeting the purposes of this Act.

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**APPENDIX E****UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN SENATE****VOTING PROCEDURE FOR THE ELECTION OF A CANDIDATE  
TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The following procedure shall govern the conduct of the portion of the meeting at which the Senate elects a Candidate to the Board of Governors:

**1. Presentation by Candidates**

- 1.1 Each Candidate shall be allowed up to ten (10) minutes of the floor. Candidates will be asked to address, during their presentations, questions that have been provided at least one week in advance of the Senate meeting by the Senate Executive Committee. The questions at a given election will be the same for all Candidates.
- 1.2 After all Candidates in attendance have had a chance to present to the meeting, the Chair of the meeting shall call for a vote.

**2. Selection of Election Administrators and Observers**

- 2.1 The University Secretary shall appoint and supervise such number of staff members from the office of the University Secretary to be responsible to distribute, collect, and count the written ballots.
- 2.2 Each candidate may appoint an observer to monitor the administration of the vote.

**3. Type of Ballot and Voting Method**

- 3.1 The ballot shall be secret and written.
- 3.2 The ballot shall instruct each voter to select the name of their desired Candidate, and no other names. Ballots with more than one name indicated shall be considered spoiled and not counted.

**4. Calculation of Votes**

- 4.1 Once all the ballots are collected, the University Secretary shall count the votes for the Candidates.
- 4.2 The results of the votes will be presented by the University Secretary to the meeting after the count is complete.

- 4.3 If no single Candidate receives over 50% of the votes at the meeting, the Candidate with the least amount of votes shall be removed from the election. The Secretary will announce the results. This process shall be repeated until such time as a single Candidate has received over 50% of the vote.

## **5. Appeals and Complaints**

- 5.1 Any appeals and complaints regarding the conduct of the election and the results will be administered in accordance with the Appeal and Complaints process outlined in the Senate Bylaws (III.10).

## SUMMARY OF UNIVERSITY SENATE'S RULES OF ORDER

The University of Saskatchewan Senate has three sources of procedural guidance. One of these is the *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995*. The link to the Act is here:

<http://www.publications.gov.sk.ca/freelaw/documents/English/Statutes/Statutes/U6-1.pdf>

The Act specifies the number of meetings that must be held, indicates the composition of Senate and describes how senators are to be elected, among other things.

The second source of procedural guidance is the Senate Bylaws.

Where the bylaws do not address a procedural issue, the Senate has agreed that it will be guided by Kerr and King, *Procedures for Meetings and Organizations, 3d ed.* A copy of Kerr & King may be borrowed from the University Library or from the Office of the University Secretary, or ordered from Thomson Reuters publishers.

### Purpose of Rules of Order

The rules of order can be thought of as the terms of engagement the group has agreed to use by which to consider and make decisions. It helps if members fully understand them, as that will lead to a respect for the procedures and a more efficient use of members' time at meetings.

The rules of order are based upon:

- **orderly discussion and debate** (e.g. debate is not dominated by one or two individuals; the chair maintains order)
- **fairness** (e.g. the requirement for approval by a two-thirds majority vote to add a substantive motion at a meeting is based on the principle that approval by a larger majority is required, as advance notice of the motion was not given)
- **equality** (e.g. the same rules apply to and govern everyone, the same terminology is employed; all members have a right to speak; each vote is equal)

### Role of the Chair

The chair of Senate is the Chancellor, who presides over all meetings of Senate. The chair's duties are to preserve order and decorum and, subject to appeal, to decide all questions of order and other questions.

The purpose of debate at Senate is to allow for and share opinions in a respectful manner so that members can benefit from hearing their colleagues' opinions. The chair displays neutrality in directing debate, ensuring debate is respectful and orderly. The use of the term chair draws attention away from the person occupying the chair, and focuses on the role the person plays. Referring to the chair, and addressing questions to the chair diffuses the emotion that can accompany debate and depersonalizes the issue under discussion. Preserving the chair's neutrality is behind the practice of the chair voting only to break a tie.

## **Purpose of Motions**

The overall purpose of motions is to enable a meeting to make clear decisions and to carry out its objectives in a fair and effective manner. If the basic purpose of having a meeting is to make collective decisions, then motions facilitate collective decision-making. Kerr & King likens motions as controlling the business of the meeting so that there will not be “a traffic jam of ideas.”

A motion is a proposal for action or an expression of opinion which is presented to a group for a decision. The action is typically framed as a question, therefore a motion under consideration is often referred to as “the question.” Once a motion has been properly moved and seconded, it becomes the property of the meeting and all members have the right to propose changes to make it more generally acceptable. A member may move or second a motion, but is never obligated to vote in favour of the motion when the question is asked. The purpose of seconding a motion is to indicate that there is sufficient interest in the matter for it to be considered by the whole meeting. The movers have no ownership of the motion and can only withdraw a motion with the unanimous consent of the meeting.

Various conditions apply to motions. As per Kerr & King, depending on the motion it may or may not be:

- Amendable
- Debatable
- Require majority approval, two-thirds majority, or unanimous approval

## **Types of Motions:**

Kerr & King classify motions using a functional designation, based on the purpose and function of the motion. There are rules surrounding the use of each type of motion that take into account the purpose of the motion, and the underlying principles of orderly debate, fairness and equality.

***Substantive Motions*** - Substantive motions comprise the main business of the meeting and include requests that lie within Senate’s authority to approve and which are put to Senate for decision. Substantive motions are action motions; these motions adopt, accept, receive, appoint, approve, establish, confirm, concur, endorse, rescind, etc.

***Procedural Motions*** - Procedural motions modify how substantive motions are being addressed. Procedural motions are meant to expedite a decision, by shortening the debate or facilitating the discussion of a complex issue, or prevent or postpone a vote on a motion. Because they can only be moved to modify how a substantive motion is being addressed, they can only be moved when a substantive motion, or an amendment to a substantive motion, is under consideration.

***Regulatory Motions*** - Regulatory motions regulate the schedule of the meeting and can be moved at any time.

Examples of regulatory motions include:

- Motion to approve the agenda
- Motion to add a substantive item to the approved agenda
- Motion to adjourn

***Amendments and Subamendments*** - Amendments and subamendments of motions permit modification of a substantive motion that is under active consideration through the addition, deletion or substitution of certain words, but not the entire motion. The amendment must be relevant to the main motion. It may be contrary to the intention of the main motion, but it must not convert a motion into its direct negative and must not introduce an independent substantive issue that can stand on its own. When an amendment is moved and seconded, the amendment becomes the active business of the meeting. Further debate on the main motion is resumed only after the amendment has been decided. Once a motion is moved and seconded it becomes the property of the meeting, and therefore the mover and seconder have no proprietary right over the motion. Therefore, the commonly used term “friendly amendment” as directed to the mover and the seconder is irrelevant.

## **Notice of Motions**

Notice of specific motions is included in the agenda circulated to all Senators for each meeting through the package of information provided. It is important that members are informed in advance of all matters coming forward at the meeting, to allow them to seek out further information on unfamiliar issues and to ensure they attend for matters they consider critical. When there is a request to add an item to the agenda at the meeting, members of Senate will be asked if they agree to this change.

So notice can be waived and an item added to the meeting’s agenda at the beginning of the meeting when the agenda is approved, only if a motion to amend the agenda is passed. Senate’s bylaws specifically state, “Any member of Senate may request that a motion be placed on the agenda at that meeting of Senate. The motion will be added to the agenda if passed by a simple majority of the votes cast by the members entitled to vote.” So although Kerr & King requires a two-thirds majority vote to add an item to the agenda at the beginning of a meeting, as Senate’s bylaws are specific in this regard, the Senate bylaws override Kerr & King so a majority vote is required (i.e. more than 50%).

However, Kerr & King specifically states that there are certain items for which notice cannot be waived, which include: a motion to renew, to amend or to rescind a substantive motion. Also, according to Kerr & King, to add an item to the agenda later in the meeting requires unanimous approval.

Regarding notice of motions, Senate’s bylaws also state, “Notice of any motion to be submitted at a meeting by a member of Senate, other than a motion arising out of the business of the meeting, shall be given to the Secretary 30 days prior to that meeting to enable the Executive Committee to determine whether said motion shall be added to the agenda of the meeting. If the Executive Committee declines to place the motion on the agenda, at the request of the member, the motion and supporting materials shall be made available to Senate prior to the meeting.”

## **Procedures for Debate**

The purpose of debate is to enhance the decision-making process. By listening and contributing to the discussion, members become aware of the extent of the problem under consideration, the alternative solutions available, and have a better comprehension of the significance and implications of the decision.

Debate is not permitted on certain motions for which there is no need to explain their purpose, and these motions therefore cannot be amended. Most procedural and regulatory motions are not debatable.

The debate is directed by the chair. Members speak for or against a motion, move amendments and ask questions – via the chair. When a number of members wish to speak the chair recognizes them in the order of their requests, but normally gives preference to:

- the mover of the motion (if not already spoken);
- the reporting member of a relevant committee;
- a member who appeals to be heard before others in order to correct a misquotation or a misunderstanding;
- a person who has not spoken on the particular question under debate;
- an alternation of speakers for and against the motion, when such views are known;
- a person who seldom speaks; and
- a member making an appeal.

If a long debate is anticipated or there is a full agenda, the chair may use discretion to restrict members to a specified time limit and allow them to only speak once in the debate. The exceptions are: for a former speaker to explain a substantive point that has been misquoted or misunderstood; a person who has spoken may answer questions addressed via the chair, unless the chair rules them out of order; and the mover of a substantive motion has the right to close the debate before the vote is taken.

The debate can end upon the passing of a motion to close the debate which requires a two-thirds majority vote; or if no motion has been made to limit or close the debate, and no further members indicate that they wish to speak, the chair reads the motion and then puts it to a vote. To remain impartial, the chair should not sum up the debate before putting the question to a vote.

## **Common Motions at Senate Meetings**

***To approve or amend the circulated agenda*** – regulatory motion; debate restricted to amendments; amendments restricted to the stated order and timing of the items, and by the addition of permitted items; approval by majority of votes cast (according to Senate bylaws); chair must rule on whether the proposed changes constitute minor routine matters or substantive matters

***To approve minutes of a previous meeting*** – substantive motion; debate restricted to amendments; amendments restricted to accuracy of the minutes; approval by majority of votes cast

***To approve, accept or adopt*** – substantive motion; debatable; amendable; approval by majority of votes cast

***To confirm certain Council decisions*** – substantive motion; debatable; amendable; approval by majority of votes cast

***To require a written vote*** – procedural motion; debatable only with respect to amendments; amendable only with respect to the recording of the vote count; approval by majority of votes cast

***To adjourn*** – procedural motion; must be seconded; not debatable; not amendable; approval by majority of votes cast

## **Specific Appeals**

An appeal is made by a member to seek redress for a situation that arises during a meeting or to request permission for a stated course of action. It does not need to be seconded, but must be made when the incident occurs. Appeals are addressed to the chair and may interrupt a speaker who has the floor if it is necessary to correct the situation. Although an appeal is not debatable, the chair may request a brief explanation. Most appeals are decided by the chair, although some are put to the meeting. A ruling of the chair may also be appealed, which is decided by a vote of the meeting.

***On a point of order*** – any member may appeal on a point of order if they believe the proceedings of the meeting are at variance with the bylaws, approved procedures, or with a previous decision on the specific procedure. The chair invites the member to: describe the proceedings which are considered to be a breach of the rules and request that action be taken to rectify the situation. The chair then makes a ruling. If there is any uncertainty about the meaning or the interpretation of the rules, it is Senate's practice for the chair to declare a short recess and consult with the secretary and the appropriate source book.

***For permission to speak ahead of others to correct a mistake or misquotation*** – any member who believes a speaker has given wrong information to the meeting, or has misquoted another speaker or source of information, may appeal for permission to speak before others in order to set the record straight. The request would be, "I wish to speak ahead of others in order to correct the remarks made by the previous speaker with respect to (state the issue)." The member does not interrupt the speaker who has the floor, but makes the appeal immediately after this person finishes speaking and before the chair recognizes the next speaker in the debate. The chair would normally grant such an appeal; however, the intervention must be confined strictly to the issue stated in the appeal. After the person making the appeal has spoken, the chair recognizes the next person to speak and the debate continues. If the member uses this as an opportunity to raise issues which are not directly relevant to the point of the appeal, or if it is obvious that the member does not have adequate information to establish that the previous speaker made an error – then the chair interrupts the member and asks that their remarks be delayed until the member is recognized in proper turn.

***From a ruling of the chair*** – If a member considers that a ruling by the chair is not in order, an appeal may be made from this ruling. In such cases, the member states that they wish to

appeal from the ruling of the chair, and the chair gives a brief explanation of the ruling, but this is not open to debate. The meeting is then asked to decide the question, and the chair asks if the ruling of the chair is upheld. A ruling of the chair is upheld by a majority of votes cast, or in the event of a tie vote. When a ruling of the chair is overturned by a vote of the meeting, the chair takes the necessary action to correct the situation and then the meeting returns to its normal agenda.

## **Role of Committees**

Through committees, the group gains the skill, expertise and commitment of more individuals; issues can be aired thoroughly from different perspectives; and freer discussion is permitted by the use of informal procedures. Especially in groups that meet infrequently, such as Senate, committees facilitate the effective operation of Senate by collecting information and thinking through issues at an advisory and exploratory level, before presenting recommendations to the parent body.

The two types of Senate committees are standing committees and *ad hoc* committees. Senate's bylaws include the membership and terms of reference of Senate's standing committees. Issues that arise within the designated purpose of a standing committee are referred to the standing committee. A standing committee directs itself toward its long-range goals but also handles matters as and when they arise. *Ad hoc* or special committees are established from time to time to accomplish specific purposes and are dissolved after these purposes are fulfilled.

## **The University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995**

The *University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995* sets out the powers of the Senate in section 23:

**23** The senate may:

- (a) regulate the conduct of its meetings and proceedings;
- (b) determine the quorum necessary to transact business;
- (c) hear any reports that may be provided for by this Act and the bylaws of the senate;
- (d) consider and take action on all matters reported to it by the board, council or assembly;
- (e) appoint scrutineers for the counting of the votes for the election of the elected members of the senate;
- (f) make bylaws respecting the discipline of students for any reason other than academic dishonesty, including bylaws providing for the admonishing, dismissing, suspending or expelling of students or the imposition of fines on students;
- (g) appoint examiners for, and make bylaws respecting, the conduct of examinations for professional societies or other bodies if the university or any of its agencies is required or authorized by any Act to do so;
- (h) establish any committees of its members that it considers necessary;
- (i) provide for the granting of honorary degrees;
- (j) receive proposals respecting the establishment of any college, school, department or institute and recommend to the board and the council whether or not the proposed college, school, department or institute should be established;
- (k) receive proposals respecting the affiliation or federation of any educational institution with the university and recommend to the board and the council whether or not the proposed affiliation or federation should be made;
- (l) consider and recommend to the board and the council whether or not any college, school, department or institute should be disestablished or any affiliation or federation of the

university with another educational institution should be dissolved because of lack of relevance to the province;

- (m) authorize the establishment of an advisory council for any college, school or department and prescribe or alter the composition, duties and powers of an advisory council, whether established before or after the coming into force of this Act;
- (n) discontinue an advisory council for any college, school or department;
- (o) recommend to the board or the council any matters or things that the senate considers necessary to promote the interests of the university or to carry out the purposes of this Act;
- (p) request the board or the council to report to it on any matter over which the senate has authority;
- (q) appoint members to committees composed of members of the senate and members of all or any of the board, council and assembly;
- (r) subject to sections 24 to 28, make bylaws governing the election of members of the senate;
- (r.1) subject to section 17, make bylaws governing the nomination and appointment of the chancellor;
- (s) make bylaws respecting any matter over which it has responsibility; and
- (t) do any other thing that the senate considers necessary, incidental or conducive to exercising its powers, to promoting the best interests of the university or to meeting the purposes of this Act.

Many of these are quite specific. Some relate to the operation of the Senate itself, such as the power to create committees. Others concern specific issues over which Senate has some authority, such as the awarding of honorary degrees and the formulation of bylaws on student discipline.

Some sections in this list are of a more general nature, notably section 23 (o) and (t). These sections permit Senate to make recommendations and to “do any other thing” that senators consider to be important to the interest of the university. Similar provisions are found in the lists of powers for the other governing bodies of the university, and they recognize that all three governing bodies have an important role to play in supporting the mission of the institution.

These sections need to be viewed with some caution, however. Each of the governing bodies has a particular role, and specific areas of responsibility. The Board of Governors has responsibility for strategic oversight of financial matters and the protection of university financial and physical assets; University Council is responsible for overseeing academic issues; and the Senate brings the voice of the community to the institution and acts as an advocate for the university. The operations of the university are entrusted to the president and other administrators who have a mandate defined by the Act and by the governing bodies, as well as by faculty members of academic units.

In this complex governance environment, though it is of course useful to other governing bodies of the university to hear the views of the Senate on particular issues, it must be remembered that sections 23 (o) and (t) do not enlarge the authority of Senate or grant it decision-making power in areas overseen by the Board and Council, or on operational matters that are part of the job of administrators and faculty.

In addition, if the Senate wishes to comment or make recommendations that go beyond the matters over which it has authority under section 23, it should ensure that it has sufficient information to allow for adequate deliberation. The Office of the University Secretary is always happy to assist senators to obtain information or to arrange for presentations that will permit senators to make informed decisions.