EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE (ECS)

The Executive Committee of the Senate (ECS) serves as the clearing house for matters to be presented to the UAS. Such matters are discussed by ECS before its recommendations are made to the Senate. Its powers and duties include preparing the agenda for UAS, acting for UAS, receiving reports from the standing committees of UAS, nominating members for all committees, task forces, and boards elected by UAS, determining the number and distribution of UAS members, providing advice and counsel to the administration, arranging faculty forums, and deciding the matters that should be reviewed by the various branches of faculty governance.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

The President of the Student Senate or designee serves on ECS during his/her term of office.

POWERS AND DUTIES OF ECS

1. Preparing the Agenda for UAS: All matters to be presented to the Senate are discussed by ECS and its recommendations are placed on the UAS agenda.

2. Acting for UAS: The ECS has the power to act for UAS within the range of the Senate’s powers as described in 1a. Decisions reached by the ECS shall be considered tacitly ratified if the duly informed UAS membership does not petition for a meeting within one academic week after ECS decisions are reported to the UAS membership. If such a meeting is called, the ECS shall be bound to proceed according to the decision of the UAS. No decision may be sent to the President for further action unless or until such tacit or actual ratification has been granted. The ECS shall convene a meeting of the UAS within one academic week upon petition by one-fourth of the members of the UAS.

3. Receiving reports from the standing committees of UAS: The standing committees of UAS report to the ECS and make recommendations relative to their respective charges. The standing committee chairs, or their designees, will meet with the Executive Committee to respond to questions and explain committee reports. In its review, the ECS will decide: 1) if the matter is appropriate for Senate debate; 2) if all aspects of the matter are adequately addressed in the report; 3) if the wording of recommendations specifies precisely the action to be taken; and 4) whether specific motions should be composed to facilitate UAS deliberation of the matter. When a matter receives ECS support, it will be placed as new business on the UAS agenda either as a main motion or as a report requiring further action by UAS. If the matter does not require UAS action, ECS may act on it independently. If ECS finds the matter lacking or inappropriate, it will be routed back to the standing committee with a request for further clarification.
4. Nominations: The ECS serves as a nominating committee for membership of all committees, task forces, and boards to be elected by the UAS.

5. Advice and counsel to the administration: The ECS will provide advice and counsel to the President and/or the Provost regarding university affairs.

6. Count of faculty for UAS membership: During the Winter semester ECS shall determine membership for UAS for the following year based on the appropriate faculty member count.

7. Other matters: Requests for Senate consideration of an issue may come from any constituency, organization or member of the campus community. Items will be sent to the Chair and the Academic Governance Office where curricular items will be logged with a tracking number. To organize the Senate workload, the Executive Committee determines the course of action for most requests. The ECS will decide (1) whether the concern should be dealt with by academic governance, and (2) if so, whether it should be referred to a standing committee. If the matter is not referred to a standing committee, ECS may request information from appropriate offices and persons to help in its deliberations.

8. Arranging faculty forums: ECS may arrange faculty forums as needed. At these forums the chair of UAS/ECS will describe matters currently under discussion in the governance system and will invite faculty members' responses to the discussion at hand. Faculty members are invited to raise other concerns for discussion at these forums.