

Ball State University

Structure Summary: A shared governance system, including 1) a University Senate, 2) a Faculty council, 3) a Professional Personnel Council, 4) a SGA Student Council.

It governs through internal committees, which consist of Academic Senators, and external committees that report to internal committees.

University Senate Composition & Committees

Voting: Two members per college of tenure or tenure-track faculty members plus the Faculty Council Chair; five student members (SGA President, SGA Pro Tempore, RHA member, Undergraduate student, and Graduate student); one member per professional personnel unit plus the Professional Personnel Council chair; one Dean. (Faculty members should comprise of 51 to 58 percent of total representation in the University Senate. Added faculty members to create the 51 to 58 percent majority will come by one additional member per largest colleges.)

Nonvoting: President; Provost; VP Finance and Planning; VP Student Affairs and Enrollment Services; Assoc. VP Graduate Studies, Research, and International Studies; Deans' Council rep, Chairpersons' Council rep; student trustee

1. Standing Committees.

- A. Athletics:
- B. Judicial:
- C. Public Safety:
- D. Library:
- E. Governance and Elections

Faculty Council Composition & Committees

Voting: One tenure or tenure-track faculty member per department, six to seven additional contract faculty members to complete total number of council members for an odd number for voting.

Nonvoting: Provost; VP Student Affairs and Enrollment Services; Chairperson of Professional Personnel Council; Chairperson SGA Student Council

1. Standing Committees.

- A. Academic Freedom & Ethics: Standing Chair member only
- B. Contract Faculty:
- C. Creative Arts:
- D. Creative Teaching:
- E. Professional Education:
- F. Faculty Salary and Benefits:
- G. Graduate Education
- H. Publications & Intellectual Properties:
- I. Research:
- J. Special Leave:
- K. Teaching Evaluation:
- L. Undergraduate Education:
- M. University Grade Appeals:
- N. University Promotion & Tenure:

Professional Personnel Council Composition & Committees

Voting: Two representatives per unit (each unit with 51-100 employees will add one member, if unit has 101+ employees add two members)

Nonvoting: Leadership of each divisional unit, President SGA, and Chair Faculty Council

1. Standing Committees.

- A. **Admissions & Credit:**
- B. **Financial and Budgetary:**
- C. **Master Planning & Facilities:**
- D. **Professional Personnel Salary and Benefits:**

Students Government Council Composition & Committees

Voting: Members based on the SGA Bylaws

Nonvoting: Provost, VP Student Affairs and Enrollment Services, Chair of Faculty Council, and Chair of Professional Personnel Council

1. Standing Committees.

- A. **Events Programming & Scheduling:**
- B. **Student Activities:**
- C. **Student Center:**
- D. **Student Financial Assistance:**
- E. **Student Rights, Ethics & Standards:**

Proposed major changes to overall governance system from committee:

- Faculty Council and Professional Personnel Council will not duplicate representation on University Senate
- Faculty will comprise of 51 to 58 percent of University Senate total representation
- Eliminate Campus Council as it was a duplication of SGA
- Change the name of University Council to Professional Personnel Council
- Major Committee Changes
 - Moved to Senate as a standing committee
 - Public Safety
 - Library
 - Athletics
 - Judicial
 - Moved to Faculty Council
 - Publications & Intellectual Properties
 - Research
 - Make a standing committee with chair, add committee members when needed (Suggestion from this committee would be Faculty Council each year elects the standing chair)
 - Academic Freedom & Ethics
 - Dissolve
 - Academic Technology
 - Institutional Effectiveness
 - Online Distance Education
 - Constitute ad hoc status and generate when required
 - International Programs

Ad Hoc Committees Process and Timeline:

- The committee was formed and charged with its task of first evaluating the current university governance system and if needed propose modifications by the Governance and Elections Committee through the Chairperson of University Senate in the spring of 2017.
- Committee members interviewed university constituents affected by the governance system. These constituents included:
 - Current and former chairs of senate and councils
 - Deans
 - Current and past Ball State University Presidents
 - Current and past Vice Presidents
 - Board of Trustee members
 - Current and former senators
- Committee tasked the Undersecretary for the senate's office to create a document to describe the governance systems at 17 different institutions.
 1. Bowling Green State University
 2. Eastern Michigan University
 3. George Mason University
 4. Illinois State University
 5. Indiana University of Pennsylvania

6. James Madison University
7. Kent State University
8. Marshall University
9. Miami University
10. Northern Arizona University
11. Northern Illinois University
12. Ohio University
13. The University of Texas at Arlington
14. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
15. The University of North Texas
16. The University of Southern Mississippi
17. Western Michigan University

- Fall 2017 the committee discussed all of the data collected.
- The committee identified five areas that needed to be evaluated;
 1. Definition of Senate and Councils
 2. Representation of members
 3. Committee allocation
 4. Culture
 5. Training
- The committee drafted a new definition of the University Senate, that served as a guidepost for its decision making:

In its advisory capacity to the President and the Board of Trustees of Ball State University and with its principle charge being the formulation of educational policy at this institution, the University Senate along with its subsidiary councils and committees put forth this Constitution to establish an orderly process for shared governance. Through this instrument, the University Senate states its intention of the steadfast pursuit of the academic standards, goals, and purposes of this institution while acknowledging that administration will have the sole responsibility to organize and execute administrative duties as required by law, accepted policy and best practices. With this idea of shared governance, the University Senate commits itself to the continued advancement and betterment of this institution and the students, which it serves.

- Committee requested each standing committee chair or ex officio to define the committee's purpose and summarize its most recent contribution.
- The Committee reviewed all standing committees and made appropriate organizational changes to each system.
 1. Recommend that Public Safety, Library, Athletics, and Judicial be moved to Senate
 2. Recommend Publications & Intellectual Properties and Research be moved to Faculty Council
 3. Recommend that Academic Freedom & Ethics have a standing chair member and add members as needed
 4. Recommend Academic Technology, Institutional Effectiveness, and Online Distance Education be dissolved
 5. International Programs become an ad hoc committee
- The committee understands that optimizing culture and developing training must originate from the University Senate leadership, Council leadership, and be supported by upper administration. We feel that both a shift in culture and training is critical to the successful implementation of a new governance system. Suggestions from committee:
 - Leadership training for chairs and vice chairs of council's and senate

- Defining what a senator members roll and duties include
- Defining what a council members roll and duties include