

## **1. SENATE NOMINATIONS RULES AND PROCEDURES**

- 1.1. The following are the general procedures and guidelines used by the Senate Executive Committee in the nomination process for membership on Senate committees and other positions elected by Senate.

### **Principles**

As part of its commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, Senate aims to constitute a body that is reflective of the diversity of the University community and in our society. Senate explicitly articulates its commitment and desire to enhance institutional equity, diversity and inclusion through its membership in the plenary, its standing committees and other elected positions.

### **Procedures**

- 1.2. The following actions are taken to broadcast opportunities and build awareness about participating in Senate governance and to develop annual slates of nominations that include individuals who self-identify as members of equity groups:
- a. call for nominations is issued which lists vacancies and provides information about committees and positions
  - b. Faculty Councils, Deans and Principal are asked for suggestions
  - c. members of the Senate Executive Committee suggest names
  - d. the names of those who have served on Senate Committees in the past are reviewed

### **Elections and Acclamations**

- 1.3. Senate Executive shall endeavour to:
- a. identify sufficient numbers of candidates to construct a slate leading to a vote and encourage Faculty Councils to maximize the number of individuals standing for election to Faculty-designated seats on relevant Senate committees. This is a guiding principle and not a requirement for election processes, which may result in acclamations.
  - b. identify nominations from diverse candidates from equity groups.

### **Nomination Guidelines and Criteria**

- 1.4. The selection of faculty members for nomination to Senate Committees and legislated sub committees will be conducted in such a way as to draw on the various talents and the diversity of members of all Faculties of the University.

- 1.5. Notwithstanding the suggestions made or the interest shown by individuals, nominees selected for a ballot/acclamation are considered in the context of the following criteria:
  - a. the responsibilities of the position and any specific requirements which can be reasonably anticipated in the coming three-year period
  - b. the skills, including leadership skills, which the candidates would bring to the position
  - c. the experience which the candidates would bring to the position
  - d. the current and historical balance among Faculties, in the case of non-designated committees
  - e. the current and historical balance of diversity of members from equity groups<sup>6</sup>
  - f. the range of skills and experience of other continuing members of the committee
  - g. the level of interest of the candidate in the subject matter
  - h. the availability of the individual to attend meetings and contribute to the work of the committee
  - i. the ability of the individual to participate in the work of the committee through the electronic medium where this is an important and ongoing modality of the Committee
- 1.6. Normally, faculty members should not succeed themselves on a committee, although for reasons of continuity, special skills, or other exceptional reasons it may be advisable in a particular circumstance to waive this practice. Application of this practice should vary according to the committee. Non-succession is mandatory in the case of Tenure and Promotions, advisable in the case of Academic Policy, Planning and Research Committee (and perhaps the Executive Committee) and followed generally where possible.
- 1.7. In applying the criteria above, a special effort should be made to include junior and less experienced faculty in the work of committees as a means of developing them for further service in the future.
- 1.8. Leadership ability and relevant experience in any relevant context must be present in those being put forward for senior positions and committees.
- 1.9. The overall objective of the nomination and election procedure is to produce committees that will exercise well and responsibly the trust that Senate has placed in them.
- 1.10. Notwithstanding all of the practices summarized above, the Executive Committee must exercise its best judgment and do so with the best interests of York University at heart.
- 1.11. Senate has the final say: additional nominees will be accepted if the individual nominated has agreed to stand, is available to meet at the standing meeting times, and meets the criteria.

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<sup>6</sup> “*equity groups*” includes women, Black, racialized persons and Indigenous Peoples, persons with a disability, and persons who identify in the 2SLGBTQ+ community.