

CHARTER CHANGES
Passed Faculty Senate on Second Reading
March 13, 2002

Charter Changes:

1. **Article III, Section 5.** (As amended 12-76; ratified 9-77; approved 10-81.) A vacancy shall be declared if a senator is absent from three ~~consecutive~~ meetings of the Faculty Senate within a Senate year (Sept.-Aug.), and the chair of the senate may thereupon immediately declare a vacancy in the membership of the senate; or for good cause in the judgment of the chair, such declaration may be deferred or omitted. In the event of a declared vacancy, the Faculty Senate Election Committee shall conduct a special election among the appropriate electorate to fill the vacancy. A senator dropped from membership because of three ~~consecutive~~ absences is eligible for re-election; however, for the purposes of determining the length of continuous membership in the senate (as in the case of limitation of two consecutive three-year terms) a senator who is re-elected to fill a vacancy for a position which he or she has just vacated shall be deemed to have had continuous membership. A specially elected senator shall be seated in the next regular Faculty Senate meeting following his or her election and shall serve the remainder of the senator's term. ~~The tally of three consecutive absences begins anew with each term to which a senator is elected.~~ No vacancy shall exist if a senator-at-large, elected from a specific academic rank, is promoted to a new rank during his or her term of office in the senate. The senator-at-large shall complete the elected term. Absences from three consecutive meetings of a senate committee, except in the case of ex officio members, shall constitute automatic resignation by the member, and the chair of each senate committee shall report such absences to the chair of the Faculty Senate, who may thereupon immediately declare a vacancy in the membership of the committee; or for good cause in the judgment of the chair of the senate, such declaration may be deferred or omitted. In the event of a declared vacancy, the chair of the senate shall notify the Committee on Committees, which shall nominate a replacement in accordance with nominating procedures of the senate.

The chair shall report regularly the status of resignations, and the chair's decisions regarding declarations of vacancies.

1. **Article IV, Section 3:** Committees of the Faculty Senate shall include a Charter and Bylaws Committee, a Committee on Committees, a Curriculum Committee to be chaired by the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs or his or her designee and include the academic deans, an Academic Affairs Committee, a Faculty Research Committee, and such other standing and temporary committees as the Faculty Senate shall from time to time create.