



Senators, 2002

### How to Get Involved?

Any member of the University community, including Faculty, Staff, Students, and Administrators may

- Participate in the senate committees and task forces upon invitation
- Liaise with constituencies/departments/units.
- Communicate to constituents updates on senate discussions and resolutions.
- Vote on senate resolutions, motions, amendments, nominations if they are senators.
- Become familiar with University Senate constitution and by laws.
- Advocate the policy position of the University Senate.
- Promote and support the mission of the University Senate.
- Recommend and assist in recruiting prospective senators.
- Submit a proposal for consideration by the Senate. Your idea or proposal will be shared with the related committee/s for consideration. The senate holds annual elections for faculty, staff and students. Elected senators are expected to represent their constituency, viewpoints and voice their concerns. However, in congruence with shared governance, the general meetings are open to all members of the university who are in turn, welcomed to participate and engage in the discussions

**University Senate**  
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Prof. N. Hopkins, Senate 25th Anniversary



**To Submit a Proposal**  
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**The American University in Cairo**  
 University Senate



**THE FORUM**  
**FOR AUC COMMUNITY WELLBEING**





## WHAT IS THE UNIVERSITY SENATE?

The Senate is the representative council of the university faculty, with the participation of students, staff, and administration. It ensures faculty participation in governance and in the discussion of issues important to the university community. It aims to facilitate communication among University constituencies and to foster mutual respect and cooperation among the faculty of the various departments and disciplines, students, and staff. The Senate provides a forum for considering matters directly related to the wellbeing of the AUC community. Its resolutions are transmitted to the president of the University for consideration and appropriate action.

## PRINCIPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES

The right of the majority ultimately to rule.  
The right of the minority to be heard.  
The right of the individual to participate in the decision making process.  
The principle of one thing at a time.  
The principle of balance between affirmative and negative.  
The principle of parliamentary courtesy requires that decorum is understood. One debates measures, not members, and speakers treat one another with the finest decencies of society.



## SENATORS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Being Informed and prepared;
- Being active participant in the Senate committees and/or task forces;
- Being active liaison of her/his constituency/department/unit;
- Critically and consciously voting on important issues;
- Being aware of the University Senate Constitution and By-Laws;
- Advocating the policy positions of the University Senate at all University governance levels;
- Promoting and supporting the mission of the University Senate;
- Recommending and assisting in recruiting prospective Senators.

## UNIVERSITY SENATE HISTORY

In 1990, President McDonald created a Task Force on Organization and Governance to review the organizational structure of the University. The Task Force report raised several concerns including the lack of adequate formal mechanisms for effective faculty participation in policy-making and internal governance. The Task Force recommended the establishment of a University Senate to advise the President on policy matters.

In May 1993 The president and the AUC Board of Trustees approved the first constitution, with a plan for increasing the faculty, staff and student participation in the formulation of the University policy. In 1993, Professor Nicholas Hopkins, renowned Anthropologist and former Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, established the University Senate. and served as the first Senate Chair (1993-1995).

EC 2020-2021



## Senate Committees

**The Curriculum Committee** reviews, approves, and monitors curricula and programs. It is responsible for the contents of the AUC Catalog.

**The Academic Affairs Committee**, reviews, approves, and monitors standards of research and instruction, and other matters pertaining to the academic mission of the University.

**The Faculty Affairs Committee**, develops, reviews, approves, and monitors policies and other matters relating to all faculty personnel matters. It is responsible for the contents of the faculty handbook.

**The Student Affairs Committee**, reviews, approves, and monitors policies concerning the admission and academic performance of students.

**The Administrative Affairs Committee**, reviews and monitors matters related to the administration of the University, planning, and practices.

**The Grievance Committee**, considers grievances as per the Faculty Handbook.

**The Budget Review Committee**, ensures faculty involvement and consultation in the annual budget preparation process, and working closely with the university senior administration and leadership on budgetary issues and policy issues

**The Executive Committee**, is membered by the elected chair, vice chair, secretary, the chairs of the standing committees, and two additional members elected at large from the membership of the Senate.

## Shared Governance

The University Senate, convenes regularly throughout the academic year to deliberate, debate, and vote on a variety of topics, including (but not limited to):

- Institutional policies
- Academic programs and Catalog Changes
- Community matters
- Long range and Strategic plans
- financial/Budget/Facilities
- Faculty/Staff/Student affairs

Much of the University Senate activities takes place within the standing committees. Each committee meets at least twice a month during the academic year to research, review, revise and compose the university policies and proposals for consideration and voting on by the full Senate. The Senate Office coordinates and supports the activities of the Senate and its committees.



General Faculty Meeting 2019