

Constitution of Midland College Faculty Senate

Article I – Name

The name of this organization shall be the Midland College Faculty Senate.

Article II – Purpose

The purpose of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall be to provide a formal organization to promote the welfare of the faculty; to foster and encourage effective communication among faculty, and between faculty and administration; to promote unity and coherence among faculty; to provide a forum for raising, discussing, and promoting resolution of faculty issues; to foster and encourage a learning environment based on integrity, trust, dignity, and respect; and to promote academic excellence and success in the classroom, college, and community.

Article III – Membership

- Section 1. Senate Members shall consist of two representatives from each of the college's Academic Divisions and two representatives from Counseling/Advising. Each Senate Member has one vote.
- Section 2. Associate Members shall consist of all Faculty, full-time librarians, and full-time counselor/advisors. Associate Members will have no voting privileges.
- Section 3. Guests may attend meetings to address specific issues with the approval of the Faculty Senate President.

Article IV- Senate Member Election

- Section 1. Each college division shall be represented by two faculty members. These Senate Members shall be determined during the Division meeting during the August Inservice Week.
- Section 2. The two Senate Members from Counseling/Advising shall be selected within their department no later than the first week of school.
- Section 3. The Senate Member term will be three years.

Article V – Responsibilities and Duties of Senate Members

- Section 1. Attend all meetings of the Senate, or to send an alternate.
- Section 2. Participate in discussions and debate in the Senate.
- Section 3. Serve as a liaison between full-time faculty and the Senate by informing their division faculty of Senate business.
- Section 4. Make decisions in light of what is best for the faculty and College as a whole.

Article VI – Removal or Replacement of Senate Members

- Section 1. A Senate Member shall be removed from office if he or she is neither in attendance nor represented by an alternate at three meetings during an academic year.
- Section 2. If one of the Senate Member positions becomes vacant, the position shall be filled temporarily from the full-time faculty from that Division or Counseling/Advising by a two-thirds vote of the remaining Senate Members. A permanent replacement shall be selected at the next special election or regular election.

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Article VII - Dues

- Section 1. No dues shall be assessed for the purpose of membership in the Midland College Faculty Senate.
- Section 2. Voluntary contributions may be solicited annually by the Midland College Faculty Senate.

Article VIII - Government

- Section 1. The purpose of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall be effected through its membership, elected Executive Board, and authorized committees.
- Section 2. The general meetings of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall serve as the legislative body of the organization.
- Section 3. The Senate shall convene once each semester and as needed.
- Section 4. The rules contained in The New Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with the constitution of this organization.
- Section 5. All resolutions and motions may be passed by a majority vote of the members present at the Faculty Senate meeting including those who have submitted a written proxy to the Senate President prior to the meeting in which the resolution or motion is proposed. Secret paper balloting will be required for resolutions or motions that deal with the election or removal from office of officers.

Article IX – Officers

- Section 1. Elected officers of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall be a President, President-Elect, and Secretary.
- Section 2. All officers shall be elected from and by the Senate Members.
- Section 3. The elected officers shall constitute the Executive Board, which shall:
 - a. Act on behalf of the membership in emergency circumstances.
 - b. Establish procedures for regular, special, and no confidence elections.
- Section 4. The term of office shall last one year or until a successor is elected. The terms of the Executive Board will expire on the second Faculty Senate meeting of the Spring Semester when regular elections are held, at which time the President-Elect will assume the office of President and suitable elections will be held amongst the Senate Members for President-Elect, and Secretary whose terms will begin immediately upon the successful conclusion of those elections.
- Section 5. In the event of the death, signed resignation, or vote of no confidence of any elected officer, the Midland College Faculty Senate shall hold a special meeting to fill the vacancy from its membership.
- Section 6. No officer shall hold more than one office at a time.

Article X. Responsibilities and Duties of Officers

- Section 1. The President of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall:
 - a. Represent Midland College faculty at President’s Council meetings.
 - b. Lead all meetings of the Senate.
 - c. Prepare meeting agendas and publish to all Faculty Senate members at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
 - d. Handle e-mail and other communication associated with Senate business.

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- e. Represent faculty to the administration with input on all matters associated with the Senate.
 - f. Call for all votes.
 - g. Call special sessions.
- Section 2. The President-Elect of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall:
- a. Provide advice and counsel concerning the operation of the Faculty Senate
 - b. Advocate for the president and executive board members where their official duties create a conflict of interest in advocating for themselves.
 - c. Conduct the duties of Senate President or Senate Secretary if the officer is unable to attend meetings.
 - d. Perform all other duties as may be assigned by the Senate President.
- Section 3. The Secretary of the Midland College Faculty Senate shall:
- a. Maintain Faculty Senate history.
 - b. Maintain and post Senate minutes.
 - c. Serve as Senate Parliamentarian.
 - d. Facilitate all Senate elections.
 - e. Maintain financial records and give updated reports at Senate meetings.
 - f. Perform all other duties as may be assigned by the Senate President.

Article XI – Removal of Officers

- Section 1. Any officer shall be removed from office upon a simple majority vote of no confidence by the Faculty Senate.
- Section 2. The no confidence vote shall be conducted by secret paper ballot.

Article XII – Amendments to the Constitution

- Section 1. Amendments shall be proposed in writing and submitted to the Midland College Faculty Senate President at regular Senate meetings.
- Section 2. For purposes of discussion, debate, or revision, proposed amendments shall be placed on the agenda and considered at the next regular Senate meeting after they have been proposed in writing.
- Section 3. Proposed amendments in the form they emerge from the meetings defined in Section 2 shall be voted on by secret paper ballot at the next regular Senate Meetings to be held within one month following their printing in final form.
- Section 4. Amendments shall be adopted by two-thirds of the votes cast by the Midland College Faculty Senate members.

Article XIII – Ratification of the Constitution

- Section 1. This Constitution shall require the approval by two-thirds of the votes cast by the Midland College Faculty Senate.
- Section 2. Upon ratification, this Constitution shall become effective immediately as the document of authority for the Midland College Faculty Senate.