

Agenda  
Representative Senate Meeting  
Wednesday, November 18, 2009  
1:45pm, Kiva Auditorium

1. Call to order
2. New Business – Amendment to the Senate bylaws
3. Guest – President Ann Weaver Hart (2p)
4. Guest – “Provost Lisa Listens” Q&A
5. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2009
6. Reports of Officers:
  - President Karen M. Turner
  - Vice President Paul S. LaFollette
7. Unfinished Business
8. New Business (continued if necessary)
9. Adjourn

Motion to amend Senate Bylaws:

*(Proposed language added to the current bylaw is underlined. Proposed language removed from the current bylaw is shown with strike marks. The complete Senate Constitution and Bylaws can be found @ the Senate web site:*

*<http://www.temple.edu/senate/>)*

**ARTICLE V – MEETINGS Section 6:**

A quorum of the University Faculty senate shall consist of ~~25%~~ 40 of the eligible members. A quorum of the Representative Faculty Senate ~~for the conduct of business~~ shall consist of ~~a majority of the~~ 25 eligible members. It shall be assumed, upon the call to order, that a quorum is present: the minutes shall be presented; but if, after presenting and before approval of the minutes, any member shall suggest the absence of a quorum, ~~the secretary shall call the roll.~~ presiding officer shall determine whether a quorum be present. ~~In the case of the University Faculty Senate a head count may suffice.~~ If no quorum be present, ~~the meeting~~ presiding officer shall determine ~~by majority vote~~ either to wait for the appearance of a quorum or to adjourn to a day not more than two weeks hence. In the event a quorum cannot be obtained, at the presiding officer's discretion, the meeting may continue informally for purposes of debate or discussion, but no formal action may be taken. A member may at any time after the approval of the minutes suggest the absence of a quorum, but the presiding officer may rule said suggestion out of order if, in the presiding officer's opinion, a quorum is present.

**Explanation (not part of the motion):** *This amendment is coming before the Representative Senate from the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. The purpose of the change is to insure that the Senate can conduct its business. The amendment (1) updates the bylaws to reflect typical Representative Senate and University Senate meeting attendance, (2) places the responsibility of determining quorum with the presiding officer. S/he may determine quorum through a head count, show of hands, roll call or any other method deemed appropriate. In the event a member of the meeting disagrees with the presiding officer's ruling, Robert's Rules specifies that the member may challenge the ruling. This challenge is voted on by those present and if the vote carries, the presiding officer's ruling is set aside. This is applicable to any ruling from the presiding officer, not just rulings about quorum. It is not necessary to include this language in the motion because it is already in Robert's Rules, which we must follow for any matter upon which our bylaws and constitution are silent*

It is the intent of the Steering Committee that this amendment be submitted to the Representative Senate for a second reading and vote at the 11/18/09 meeting.

11/09