Section 3.0 There shall be a standing committee of the Academic Senate on committee membership and structure, hereinafter referred to as the Committee on Committees (COC).

3.1 The COC shall be composed of seven tenured/tenure track voting faculty members, including the Speaker and Speaker-elect. Five of these members shall be elected by and from the General Faculty from a slate of nominees prepared by the Senate Executive Committee with no more than two of the five voting faculty members from any one college, the library, or counseling. Elections shall be conducted by the COC according to the procedures in Article VI, Section 3.2.

a) The COC shall, from among its members, elect its own Chair each year.

b) Elected members of the COC shall have terms of office of two years. The terms shall be staggered.

3.2 The duties of the COC shall be to:

a) Make recommendations on committee structure.

b) Nominate candidates for offices of the General Faculty and for elective committees of the General Faculty and the Academic Senate except for positions on the COC.

For each of the offices of Speaker-elect, Clerk, and the General Faculty’s representatives to the Statewide Academic Senate, the COC will make every effort to nominate at least two candidates for each office. Additional nominations may be made by petition of at least ten percent of the General Faculty.

The COC shall make nominations for all other elective positions. Additional nominations may be made by petition of at least ten percent of the General faculty.

In preparing the slate of nominees for all elected positions on General Faculty or Academic Senate Committees and in making non-elective appointments to committees, the COC shall strive for broad representation from the colleges, library, and the counseling faculty.

d) Conduct all university-wide elections and ballots. Elections and ballots may be by electronic means or by mail, as directed by COC.

Regular elections for officers and committee membership must be held no later than the fifteenth of May.
For each of the offices of Speaker-elect, Clerk, and the General Faculty’s representatives to the Statewide Academic Senate, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast on a ballot, runoff elections shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes, until one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast.

e) If an elected faculty representative is unable to serve the remainder of his/her term, and it is one semester or less, the COC may appoint a replacement. If there is more than one semester left in the term and it is deemed urgent to secure a replacement quickly, then COC may appoint a replacement for the remainder of the semester and hold an election to finish out the term.

f) Conduct ballots on initiation of or referendum of General Faculty actions, according to the procedures in Article III., Section 4.0.

g) Conduct recall elections when so instructed by the Speaker (or Speaker-elect in the event of recall of the Speaker), according to the procedures of Article III., Section 6.0.

h) Conduct ballots on amendments to this Constitution, according to the procedures of Article VII., Sections 4.0 and 5.0.

3.3 The COC shall establish the fewest number of committees consistent with optimal operation of the University. No new Academic Senate or General Faculty committee or subcommittee shall be established without approval of the COC or the Academic Senate. This does not apply to administratively appointed committees or to ad hoc committees meeting two semesters or less. The COC shall seek to reduce the number of committees by making appropriate recommendations to the Academic Senate.

3.4 The COC shall take steps to ensure more effective faculty government by overseeing committee assignments. The COC shall circulate to all faculty each February a request for committee preferences. After reviewing this list of preferences, the COC shall prepare a slate of nominees to be submitted for election, for all committees other than the COC. The Senate Executive Committee shall prepare a slate of nominees for COC. Additional nominees for any elected committee may be submitted by the faculty by the petition of at least ten percent of the General Faculty. For non-elective committees, the COC shall, as described in Section 3.2 (a), fill positions, taking steps to assign to committees faculty who have relevant expertise and who will serve responsibly. This committee shall strive to distribute committee assignments broadly and shall seek new leadership from among the newer faculty.

3.5 The COC makes its own rules of procedure, consistent with the procedures outlined in this Constitution and subject to review by the Academic Senate.

Amended 3/28/13