3.2.6.2 Section B: Organizational Structure of the Faculty Senate

1. The faculty, for purposes of organization, shall be partitioned as follows: the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences; the College of Arts and Sciences; the College of Business and Economics; the College of Education and Professional Studies; and the remaining division (Fourth Division), composed of faculty within Student Personnel, University Services, and the Library. The Elections Chair will conduct a census of the faculty each spring semester and will include all faculty members under contract at the time of the census. The results will be used to apportion seats as follows: Each of the five divisions shall elect one (1) senator for each thirty (30) staff members or major portion thereof (i.e. majority). An additional seven (7) senators shall be elected from and by the faculty-at-large. [FS 12/13 #121]

2. The seven senators-at-large shall be distributed as follows: Four (4) professors and/or associate professors, hereafter referred to as the senior ranks; three (3) assistant professors, lecturers, and/or academic staff personnel, hereafter referred to as the junior ranks.

3. The term of office of a senator shall be three years, approximately one-third to be elected each year. The term of office will end when employment at UW-River Falls ends and a new senator will be elected to complete the term.

4. All faculty members under contract at the time of the election shall be eligible to nominate and vote for members of the Senate as provided for in Article VI, Section C of the Constitution.

5. To be eligible for election to the Faculty Senate, the faculty member must be an eligible voter and must have completed a minimum of one (1) semester, excluding summer sessions, on the faculty.

6. Election of Senate members will take place in spring semester and will be completed by the end of the tenth week of that semester. Newly elected senators will take office at the last regular meeting of spring semester.

7. Vacancies that occur will be filled for the term by a special election to be conducted in the same manner as the regular nominations and elections. Said special elections shall be completed within four weeks of the occurrence of the vacancy, except that any permanent vacancy occurring in the summer shall be filled by the fourth week of the fall semester.

8. The Faculty Senate shall be free to function during the full calendar year. In the absence of a senator for more than three consecutive semesters (including a summer session as the equivalent of a semester), the seat of that senator shall be declared vacant and a special election held to fill the vacancy. Should a senator be absent for a lesser period of time, the absent senator may nominate in writing a temporary replacement to act in his or her behalf, and said nominee shall be confirmed only by a majority vote of the Faculty Senate. The substitute will be a member of the same divisional constituency as the senator being replaced. [FS 11/12 #50]

9. A change in the nature of a senator’s position such as change of college/division or rank shall have no effect upon a faculty member’s tenure on the Faculty Senate.

10. One additional senator will be appointed from the Chancellor’s Cabinet by the Chancellor. This Senate seat will be a yearly appointment. The Chancellor will appoint the senator in the fall of each year by September 15. This Senate seat is intended to improve communication between the faculty and the administration.