

Florida International University School of Computing and Information Sciences

Bylaws of the Faculty Body

Enacted on November 12, 2020 by affirmative vote of 36 faculty members out of 46 faculty members eligible to vote.

I. GOVERNANCE

1. The Faculty Body

The Faculty Body (“the Faculty”) of the FIU School of Computing and Information Sciences (“SCIS”) comprises tenure-earning faculty, tenured faculty, and full-time instructional faculty; excluding courtesy and secondary appointment faculty, emeritus faculty, visiting faculty, retired faculty, advisors, postdoctoral fellows, adjuncts, and faculty whose appointment with SCIS is less than 50% FTE of the academic year. Eligibility of faculty members who are on sabbatical, medical leave, or another leave of absence is determined in accordance with their status immediately prior to the commencement of the leave.

2. The Voting Body

The Voting Body on any issue comprises all members of the Faculty Body, except as limited hereinafter and except faculty members opting to recuse themselves from voting on the issue or removed due to conflict of interest by vote of the Faculty Body, provided at least 2/3 of the votes cast are affirmative votes to remove.

3. Jurisdiction

The Faculty Body debates and resolves:

- procedures and decisions on the issues that are Faculty Body prerogative pursuant to the FIU Faculty Constitution, FIU University Policies, or the FIU-UFF Collective Bargaining Agreement;
- recommendations on any matters related to the functioning of SCIS or FIU;
- declarations of Faculty Body’s opinion on any academic issues or issues of faculty status and protection.

4. Committees

The Faculty Body elects its standing or ad-hoc committees and determines procedures for chairing of said committees. Standing committees include: Human Resources Committee, Representation to College Tenure and Promotion Committee, Representation to the College Faculty Council; said committee members elect chairpersons of said committees.

5. Promotion and Tenure Voting

The following faculty members are eligible to vote on tenure and promotion recommendations:

- for tenure or progress towards tenure – all tenured faculty members;
- for promotion to Associate Professor -- all tenured Associate and Full Professors
- for promotion to Full Professor -- all tenured Full Professors
- for promotion of non-tenure track faculty, the Voting Body includes: (1) all tenure-earning and tenured faculty members and (2) all non-tenure track faculty members who hold at least the rank to which the candidate is seeking to be promoted.

The SCIS Director is excluded from the Voting Body on the issues of Promotion and Tenure.

6. Voting on other tenure-track personnel issues

On any motion whose effect pertains solely to personnel status matters of tenured or tenure-earning faculty, the Voting Body is limited to the tenured and tenure-earning faculty members only, provided that the Human Resource Committee unanimously affirms that said motion has only said limited effect.

II. PROCESS

1. Faculty Body meetings will be governed in accordance with Roberts Rules of Order (latest edition). Remote attendance at the meetings shall be accommodated.
2. Faculty Body meetings shall be convened at the discretion of any of:
 - the chair of any elected committee of the Faculty Body,
 - any five members of the Faculty Body,
 - a faculty member who is an administrative official of SCIS, including: SCIS Director, SCIS Associate Director, SCIS Graduate Director, SCIS Director of Undergraduate Program, Chairperson of an administratively-appointed committee.

Each faculty meeting shall be chaired by its convener or their designate unless otherwise determined by a procedure enacted by the Faculty.

3. Voting shall be by secret ballot in the following cases:
 - (a) when Faculty-enacted procedures so require;
 - (b) on the issues of tenure and promotion;
 - (c) when any faculty member so requires.
4. Voting on substantive motions shall take place at the meeting, except that in each of the following cases, the voting shall be via paper or electronic ballots tendered within a designated time after the meeting:
 - (a) when so required by the procedures enacted by the Faculty or by University policies;
 - (b) when less than 51% of the Voting Body is present at the meeting;
 - (c) when a procedural resolution is made at the meeting to conduct the substantive motion vote after the meeting.

III. AMENDING THE BYLAWS

Amendments to the Bylaws must be approved by an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the vote-eligible faculty, i.e., the entire Faculty Body.