

1 **Policy Number: B2.0**

2
3 **Policy Name: CHARTER OF ACADEMIC GOVERNANCE**

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7 **ARTICLE I. PREAMBLE**

8
9 The task of university governance must be apportioned and delegated among the board of
10 trustees, administration, faculty, staff, and students of the university. The interdependence of
11 these members of the university community and their delegated responsibilities establishes the
12 basis for effective shared governance.

13
14 It is the faculty's responsibility to lead in the formulation of recommendations relating to
15 academic matters. The academic governance of the university provides for the exercise of the
16 faculty's role in academic decisions, the protection of legitimate faculty aspirations, the
17 implementation and preservation of academic standards, and the promotion of the academic
18 welfare of students. It is the obligation of each member of the faculty to participate in these
19 governance activities to the fullest extent possible.

20
21 It is the faculty's responsibility to organize itself effectively to carry out its governance
22 responsibilities in an efficient manner. This document establishes the framework for the
23 academic governance of the Rochester Institute of Technology through the creation of an
24 Academic Senate, standing committees of the Senate, and a Faculty Assembly. It is intended
25 that, in normal circumstances, matters will come before the Senate for discussion and
26 recommendation after scrutiny by the standing committees. In exceptional circumstances,
27 matters may come before the Senate from an individual college, another university governance
28 body, an administrative officer, or a submission by ten percent of the voting members of the
29 faculty.

30
31 At the same time, the faculty has the responsibility to collaborate with others who may be
32 formulating recommendations of university-wide concern. This document seeks to articulate the
33 faculty role in academic governance while fully recognizing the appropriate shared governance
34 responsibilities that reside in other constituents and officers of the university and in the Institute
35 Council.

36
37 **ARTICLE II. THE FACULTY**

38
39 **2.1** The faculty consists of the president, provost and the vice presidents holding professorial
40 appointments, the academic deans, and the faculty as defined in [E6.0 – Policies on Faculty](#)
41 [Rank](#). The president is the presiding officer of the university.

42
43 **2.2** The voting members of the faculty at the university level are the tenure-track faculty and
44 principal lecturers.

45

46 2.3 Commensurate with the responsibilities defined in E6.0 – Policies on Faculty Rank, college
47 policy shall specify voting privileges of faculty by category and rank at the college and
48 department level.

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50 2.4 Those faculty with joint appointments vote in the college or department to which the majority
51 of their time is assigned. A voting member who holds equal appointments in two or more
52 colleges or departments shall designate in writing to their administrative supervisors one
53 college or department in which to exercise all voting privileges.

54 2.5 All elections shall be conducted by formal written ballot.

56 ARTICLE III. RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FACULTY

57
58
59 3.1 Policies: The faculty in accordance with their responsibilities as defined in [E6.0 – Policies on](#)
60 [Faculty Rank](#) has primary responsibility to formulate all academic and educational policies
61 subject to final approval by the president and where appropriate by the board of trustees. The
62 faculty must identify issues of academic concern, discuss and formulate recommendations,
63 and recommend approval for implementation. Academic issues include such matters as the
64 establishment or dissolution of all degree programs; faculty hiring, retention, promotion,
65 tenure, development, and dismissal; curriculum; admission standards; scholastic standards;
66 examination and testing programs; the award of honors; the approval of candidates for earned
67 degrees; and the establishment or dissolution of all colleges, departments, or independent
68 centers or institutes.

69
70 3.2 Advice and Recommendations: In addition, the faculty in accordance with their
71 responsibilities as defined in [E6.0 – Policies on Faculty Rank](#) has a responsibility to advise
72 and make recommendations to the appropriate persons or bodies concerning other policies
73 and decisions affecting university development and welfare. The faculty's advice and
74 recommendations in such matters are offered to the deans, vice presidents, provost, or
75 president as appropriate or as specified in university policy, or to the Institute Council in
76 those matters which appropriately come before the Council. The subjects of the advice and
77 recommendations include, for example, the appointment, retention, promotion, and tenure of
78 individual faculty; the appointment of administrative and academic officers; faculty
79 personnel policies; student responsibilities and discipline; the academic calendar; the setting
80 of fund-raising priorities; the formulation of priorities for and review of the annual operating
81 budget of the university; the development and expansion of the campus; and the expression
82 of university views on matters of public concern.

83
84 3.3 The provisions of this section are subject to Article XIV.

85 ARTICLE IV. THE ACADEMIC SENATE

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87
88 4.1 The Academic Senate shall be the legislative and representative agency of the faculty.

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90 4.2 The Senate is empowered to formulate legislation in areas of academic policy affecting more
91 than one college of the university (cf. Article III, 3.1, above). The legislative decisions of the
92 Senate are submitted to the provost for further action.

93
94 4.3 The Senate shall also offer advice and recommendation covering other matters of university
95 welfare (cf. Article III, 3.2, above). Its advice and recommendations are submitted to the
96 relevant vice president, the provost, the president, or the Institute Council.
97

98 4.4 The Senate shall act upon other resolutions, recommendations, or proposals submitted by the
99 faculty of any college, department, committees of the Senate, or ten percent of the voting
100 members of the faculty at the university level and pertaining to the academic governance or
101 the general welfare of the university.
102

103 4.5 The Senate may enact and amend its own bylaws.
104

105 **ARTICLE V. COMPOSITION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

106
107 5.1 The Senate shall be composed of

- 109 5.1.1 President of the university (ex-officio, non-voting)
- 110
111 5.1.2 Voting members of the faculty who shall be elected by the voting members of the
112 constituent faculties in accordance with their established voting procedures (cf.
113 Article II),
114
- 115 5.1.3 The provost (ex-officio, voting),
116
- 117 5.1.4 One vice president (non-voting),
118
- 119 5.1.5 Two academic deans (non-voting),
120
- 121 5.1.6 Chair of Staff Council or designee (ex-officio, non-voting),
122
- 123 5.1.7 President of Student Government or designee (ex-officio, non-voting),
124
- 125 **5.1.8 Two senior or principal lecturers at large elected by all lecturers (non-voting),**
126
- 127 5.1.9 Associate provost for faculty success (ex-officio, non-voting), and
128
- 129 5.1.10 Director of the Wallace Libraries (ex-officio, non-voting).
130

131 5.2 The operations officer of the Senate shall validate the number of voting members in each
132 college by January 15th each year from a list provided by the provost and shall allocate a
133 certain number of senators to each according to the following procedure. Each college shall
134 have one representative per 30 university-level voting faculty or fraction thereof. No college

135 shall have more than 20% of the total representatives or fewer than two individual
136 representatives, not counting the representatives of the Deans Council.

137
138 5.3 Each college shall also elect an alternate or alternates who shall serve in place of an absent
139 senator and shall enjoy all privileges of the senators during the period of service. Alternates
140 are not eligible to serve as an officer of the Senate or considered as a candidate for the
141 executive committee.

142
143 5.4 Senators shall be elected for three-year terms. Senators shall not be elected for more than two
144 consecutive terms.

145
146 5.5 The election of college senators from the university-level voting faculty in each college shall
147 be accomplished by March 1.

148
149 5.6 Terms of service for the senators begin after the last scheduled meeting of the academic year.
150 In the event of a resignation, change of duties, prolonged absence, removal from office, or
151 other serious interruption of service, the chairperson of the Academic Senate will request that
152 the university-level voting faculty of the unit concerned elect a new representative to fill out
153 the unexpired term or temporary vacancy. In the interim, the alternate will serve in
154 accordance with 5.3 above.

155
156 5.7 Each senator will serve each year on at least one of the following bodies: a standing
157 committee of the Academic Senate, the Institute Council, or a university-wide committee.

158
159 5.8 In the event of dispute as to the eligibility of faculty to serve or be represented, the Academic
160 Senate shall make the final determination.

161
162 5.9 The Academic Senate recognizes the right of individual constituents to form caucuses to
163 discuss matters of interest to the members of the respective caucuses.

164
165 **ARTICLE VI. OFFICERS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

166
167 6.1 The Senate shall annually elect an executive committee composed of a chairperson, a vice
168 chairperson, a communications officer, an operations officer, and a treasurer from among the
169 voting senators elected by the faculty. All officers will serve for a term of one year and take
170 office at the end of the academic term in which they are elected. In the event of a resignation,
171 change of duties, prolonged absence, removal from office, or other serious interruption of
172 service, a new officer will be elected from among the voting members of the faculty elected
173 to the Senate to complete the term.

174
175 6.2 The election of officers shall take place according to the following schedule:

176
177 6.2.1 By March 15, the Nominations Committee (see Article 10.1) will solicit nominations
178 from the members of the Senate. These may be provided directly from the floor at the
179 time of the meeting or submitted in writing to the Nominations Committee. It shall be
180 the responsibility of the Nominations Committee to seek, after this meeting, the

- 181 consent of each nominee (see Article 10.1 for further description of Nominations
182 Committee and electoral process).
183
- 184 6.2.2 By April 15, the Senate will conduct a nomination meeting for presentation of officer
185 candidates and committee candidates by the Nominations Committee. The Senate
186 may choose to nominate other candidates. All candidates must give prior consent to
187 the nomination.
188
- 189 6.2.3 By April 30, the Senate will conduct an election meeting for the purpose of carrying
190 out the election of candidates for officer positions and committee positions.
191
- 192 6.3 The chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Senate and shall sign the official copies
193 of all Senate actions. The chairperson and vice chairperson shall represent the faculty at all
194 meetings of the full board of trustees.
195
- 196 6.4 The vice chairperson shall preside at meetings of the Senate and of the executive committee
197 in the absence of the chairperson.
198
- 199 6.5 The operations officer shall preside at the meetings of the Senate in the absence of the
200 chairperson and vice chairperson and serve as the coordinating officer for standing
201 committees of the Academic Senate.
202
- 203 6.6 The communications officer shall preside at the meetings of the Senate in the absence of the
204 chairperson, vice chairperson, and operations officer. The communications officer shall
205 prepare all ballots and keep all records of the Senate, and shall prepare and distribute all
206 minutes and materials for Senate elections and for referenda of the faculty. The
207 communications officer shall record the results of all such elections and referenda.
208
- 209 6.7 The treasurer shall be the receiving and disbursing agent for any and all funds under the
210 control of the Academic Senate. The treasurer will keep appropriate records, report on these
211 matters upon request of the chairperson, and prepare a proposed budget at the end of each
212 academic year for the following year. At the end of the term of office, the treasurer will
213 submit to the Senate an annual report of receipts and disbursements together with a statement
214 of assets and liabilities and hand over all financial records to the newly elected treasurer for
215 the next academic year.
216
- 217 6.8 The immediate past chairperson of the Academic Senate shall serve as an *ex-officio*, non-
218 voting member of the Nominations Committee.
219

220 **ARTICLE VII. PROCEDURES AND ACTIONS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

221

- 222 7.1 The president may address the Senate at the opening of any Senate meeting and present such
223 reports and information as may concern the faculty.
224
- 225 7.2 The Senate shall meet at least once monthly during the academic year. The chair, in
226 consultation with the executive committee, may call such other or alternate meetings as

227 deemed necessary. A quorum of the Senate shall consist of a majority of its members. An
228 action of the Senate is approved only if passed by a majority of its members present and
229 voting. Meetings shall otherwise be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order
230 (revised).
231

232 7.3 Meetings of the Senate shall be open to the faculty, members of the administration, students,
233 staff, and interested members of the public. Agendas and minutes of such meetings shall be
234 distributed to all members of the Faculty Assembly (see Article XI, below) and made
235 available to the entire university community.
236

237 7.4 In the areas in which the faculty has primary responsibility to formulate policies, the
238 legislative actions of the Academic Senate shall require the concurrence of the president. The
239 chairperson shall transmit to the provost all such legislation within ten working days of its
240 passage.
241

242 **ARTICLE VIII. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

243

244 8.1 The executive committee shall be composed of the officers of the Senate (chairperson, vice
245 chairperson, operations officer, communications officer, and treasurer).
246

247 8.2 The executive committee shall be responsible for preparing the agenda of the Senate in
248 consultation with the chairs of the standing committees of the Senate. It shall also be the
249 committee of reference for the establishment of new academic-related university committees,
250 task forces, and ad hoc committees and shall forward such matters to the appropriate Senate
251 committee or committees. The executive committee shall further be responsible for the
252 coordination of the proposals and actions of the Senate's various standing and ad hoc
253 committees. It shall forward the recommendations of these committees to the Academic
254 Senate for approval, and shall serve as an information clearing house for the constituent
255 collegial faculties. The actions of the executive committee shall not limit the ability of the
256 administration to establish other committees and task forces to address university affairs;
257 however, the executive committee shall normally be consulted as these groups are
258 established.
259

260 8.3 The executive committee shall include in the agenda for Senate meetings any
261 recommendations or resolutions within the purview of the Academic Senate submitted by (1)
262 the standing committees and other committees of the Senate; (2) ten percent of the voting
263 members of the faculty; (3) the various collegial assemblies; (4) the duly constituted
264 governance bodies of the university; and (5) the administrative officers of the university. The
265 executive committee may, at its discretion, invite formal or informal presentation of such
266 recommendations or resolutions prior to the establishment of the Senate agenda. All matters
267 coming before the Senate shall normally be reviewed by a standing committee or ad hoc
268 committee of the Senate prior to their placement on the Senate agenda.
269

270 8.4 The executive committee shall not alter proposals or presentations forwarded for Senate
271 action without the authorization and consent of the originating bodies. The executive

272 committee may, however, transmit to the Senate such proposals and presentations with a
273 positive or negative recommendation, or with an alternate proposal.

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276

ARTICLE IX. COMMITTEES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

277 9.1 All committees of the Academic Senate, unless otherwise specified, shall be established by
278 the Senate, and committee membership shall be ratified by the Senate. The chairperson of the
279 Senate shall appoint a chair pro tem for each committee, whose function shall be to convene
280 the committee's first meeting. The committee shall then elect a permanent chair from among
281 its members. The chair shall communicate his or her election to the chairperson of the
282 Academic Senate.

283

284 9.2 Each committee shall receive its annual charge, as appropriate, from the Senate, and may
285 consider matters within its competence referred to it by the Senate and by faculty members,
286 faculty bodies, administrators, or students. Each committee shall report to the Senate or the
287 executive committee as required, and shall submit an annual written report of its activities
288 and recommendations to the Senate.

289

290 9.3 Elections and Terms of Service

291

292 9.3.1 Election to the Inter-College Curriculum Committee, Graduate Council and the
293 Institute Writing Committee shall be normally for a period of three academic years,
294 with an annual turnover rate of 33% of the members of the committee.

295 9.3.2 Election to all other committees of the Academic Senate shall be normally for a
296 period of two academic years with an annual turnover rate of 50% of the members of
297 the committee.

298 9.3.3 No committee member may serve more than two consecutive terms.

299 9.3.4 As circumstances may require, the Senate may add to or alter the composition of any
300 committee, except the Inter-College Curriculum Committee and Graduate Council, in
301 order to assist it in the accomplishment of its charge.

302

303 9.4 The authority of the Senate to appoint the committees shall not be construed to circumscribe
304 the appropriate authority of the president, provost, and the vice presidents to appoint such
305 committees, whether of the faculty, the administration, or jointly of both, as they shall deem
306 necessary to the administration of the university. The president, provost, and the vice
307 presidents shall consult with the Senate in the formation of such committees and shall receive
308 such nominations of members from the Academic Senate or from the executive committee
309 acting on behalf of the Senate.

310

ARTICLE X. STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

311

312
313 The following standing committees of the Academic Senate are hereby established. The chair of
314 each standing committee shall be elected by the members of that committee. The responsibilities
315 of each committee, as listed below, are illustrative not exhaustive. Moreover, voting membership
316 on some of these committees may, in view of the respective purviews of the committees,
317 appropriately include a vice president, dean, staff member, student, and/or other faculty member

318 as selected by the Senate as at-large members. The standing committees shall report directly to
319 the Academic Senate, and shall otherwise serve as directed by the Senate.

320

321 10.1 The Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee shall consist initially of all
322 Institute Council representatives who are also representatives on the Academic Senate.
323 The immediate past chairperson of the Academic Senate (ex officio, non-voting) will
324 chair the committee. Any Institute Council representative willing to stand for election to
325 the Senate's executive committee shall recuse him/herself from the Nominations
326 Committee. The remaining Institute Council representatives shall then designate four of
327 their number to serve as the Nominations Committee with the immediate past chairperson
328 of the Academic Senate. The committee shall be responsible for actively soliciting and
329 receiving oral and/or written nominations directly from the Senate by April 15. It will be
330 responsible for presenting a slate of candidates before April 30 prior to the meeting of the
331 Senate. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. The Nominations Committee is
332 responsible for:

333

334 10.1.1 Developing a plan for successful staffing of and support for the standing
335 committees.

336

336 10.1.2 Crafting a slate of nominees for the executive committee for elections in April.

337

337 10.1.3 Nominating at-large positions in the Senate standing committees and the Institute
338 Faculty Grievance Committee for Senate ratification in April.

338

339

339 10.1.4 Maintaining a list of possible faculty for appointment to committees as they arise
340 over the course of the year.

340

341

342 10.2 The Academic Affairs Committee. The Academic Affairs Committee shall be the
343 academic policy committee of the Senate and shall formulate and review all matters
344 related to academic and educational policies and procedures. The committee shall also
345 serve as liaison with appropriate administrators and administrative bodies of the
346 university. The Academic Affairs Committee shall consist of a faculty representative
347 from each college to be elected by his or her collegial faculty, three members at large
348 elected by the Academic Senate, and the provost or his or her delegate (ex officio,
349 voting).

350

351 10.3 The Academic Support Committee. The Academic Support Committee shall monitor and
352 review the academic services, computer services, cultural programs, and museum and
353 library services of the university. Members from the committee shall also serve as liaison
354 for the Senate with appropriate administrative officers, committees, and councils of the
355 university, and shall act in conjunction with the Academic Affairs Committee in the
356 formulation of policies and proposals to be submitted to the Academic Senate. The
357 Academic Support Committee shall consist of a faculty representative from each college
358 to be elected by his or her collegial faculty, three members at large elected by the
359 Academic Senate, and the provost or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting).

360

361 10.4 The Campus Environment Committee. The Campus Environment Committee shall
362 monitor the physical state of the university as it influences the academic mission and
363 report to the Senate on deficiencies and proposed initiatives. The Campus Environment

364 Committee shall consist of a faculty representative from each college to be elected by his
365 or her collegial faculty, three members at large elected by the Academic Senate, and the
366 vice president for Finance and Administration or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting)
367

368 10.5 The Faculty Affairs Committee. The Faculty Affairs Committee shall be responsible for
369 policy recommendations concerning faculty tenure, rank, welfare, leave, and professional
370 conduct; and shall review all policies and procedures concerning the extended part-time
371 and adjunct faculty of the university. The Faculty Affairs Committee shall consist of a
372 faculty representative from each college to be elected by his or her collegial faculty, one
373 dean elected by the Deans Council, three members at large elected by the Academic
374 Senate, and the provost or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting).
375

376 10.6 General Education Committee. The General Education Committee shall study the general
377 education curriculum and general education course proposals from a university-wide
378 perspective and maintain appropriate intercollege relationships with regard to general
379 education matters. The committee will assure that there is ongoing monitoring and
380 assessment of the general education curriculum; assure that there is an ongoing review of
381 the general education curriculum to determine any need for modification; consult with the
382 Intercollege Curriculum Committee regarding procedures needed to initiate, review, and
383 approve a curriculum modification proposal; review proposed courses for inclusion as
384 general education curriculum; and assure the maintenance and upkeep of a database of
385 courses that are included as general education; and oversight of the first-year seminar
386 course and its curriculum. The membership of the General Education Committee shall
387 include: a faculty representative from each college to be elected by his or her collegial
388 faculty who serves as a member of that college's curriculum committee; one
389 representative elected at large by the Academic Senate; one representative from the
390 academic deans; the provost or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting); and the director of
391 student learning outcomes assessment (ex-officio, non-voting).
392

393 10.7 Graduate Council. Graduate work at the university shall be governed by the Graduate
394 Council of the Academic Senate. The Graduate Council shall study graduate curricular
395 proposals from a university-wide perspective, maintain appropriate intercollege
396 relationships with regards to curriculum, define the essential character of graduate study
397 at the University, and continuously review existing graduate programs. The Graduate
398 Council shall consist of the following representatives: one from each college of the
399 university, each to be elected by his or her collegial faculty; three members at large
400 elected by the Academic Senate; the dean of Graduate Studies; the provost or his or her
401 delegate (ex-officio, voting); and a graduate senator from Student Government serving as
402 a graduate student representative (ex-officio, voting). Each college representative shall be
403 a voting member of the curriculum committee or committees of that college. Terms of
404 these representatives, excluding the graduate student representative, shall be for three
405 years with the terms staggered so that approximately one-third shall expire each year. The
406 graduate student representative shall serve for a term of no longer than one year. The
407 Graduate Council shall be presided over by a chairperson elected from the faculty
408 representatives by the assembly of Graduate Council representatives with a term of no
409 more than two years, normally. The chairperson of the Graduate Council shall have the

410 authority to call and chair regular and special meetings and oversee the Graduate Council
411 functions. The primary function of the Graduate Council, along with the academic deans,
412 shall be to promote the development and maintenance of high quality educational
413 programs at the graduate level at RIT and to see that the policies and procedures of the
414 university are carried out effectively.
415

416 10.8 Institute Writing Committee. The Institute Writing Committee (IWC) shall evaluate
417 courses for the determination of meeting the Writing Intensive (WI) designation and
418 maintain appropriate intercollege relationships with regard to university writing policy
419 matters. The IWC will consult with the various curriculum committees regarding
420 program objectives and the criteria for WI courses; review courses proposed to carry a
421 WI designation and grant approval for this designation; act as a liaison between all
422 academic units to determine student and faculty need regarding implementation of the
423 writing policy; define priorities for adequate professional and curricular support for both
424 students and faculty; stay current with research for changing best practices with writing
425 program administration; assess the feasibility and desirability for instituting these
426 practices at RIT and make recommendations accordingly; serve in an advisory role to
427 program faculty in the development of assessment methods for the writing course
428 outcomes; participate in a "culture of writing" by working with faculty to design
429 additional opportunities for writing: writing contests, student publications, service
430 courses, special projects, and individual study. The membership of the IWC shall include:
431 a college faculty representative from each college to be elected by his or her collegial
432 faculty; one representative elected at large by the Academic Senate; the Writing Program
433 director; one representative from the Academic Support Center, and the English
434 Language Center; and the provost and his or her delegate (ex-officio, non-voting).
435 Representatives will serve staggered three-year terms with the possibility of
436 reappointment.
437

438 10.9 Inter-College Curriculum Committee. The Inter-College Curriculum Committee (ICC)
439 shall study undergraduate curricular proposals from a university-wide perspective,
440 maintain appropriate intercollege relationships with regards to curriculum, assure that
441 existing undergraduate curricula are periodically reviewed, and make proposals to the
442 Academic Senate for undergraduate curriculum approval or discontinuance. The Inter-
443 College Curriculum Committee a faculty representative from each college to be elected
444 by his or her collegial faculty, one representative elected at large by the Academic
445 Senate, one representative from the academic deans, one representative from Student
446 Government, and the provost or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting). Whenever a
447 particular curriculum proposal is being considered in the Senate, the dean(s) of the
448 respective college(s) making the proposal shall be invited to be present and to speak.
449

450 10.10 The Long Range Planning Committee. The Long Range Planning Committee shall
451 prepare and review strategic planning initiatives of the university and review progress in
452 achieving those goals. The Long Range Planning Committee shall consist of a faculty
453 representative from each college to be elected by his or her collegial faculty, and three
454 members at large elected by the Academic Senate.
455

456 10.11 **The Multidisciplinary Curriculum Committee will be comprised of a faculty member**
457 **from the Center for Multidisciplinary Studies; a college faculty representative from each**
458 **college and degree granting institute; a representative of the provost. The representatives'**
459 **terms of service and the committee's procedures will follow those established for the**
460 **Intercollege Curriculum Committee.**

462 10.12 **The Resource Allocation and Budget Committee.** The Resource Allocation and Budget
463 Committee shall be the faculty committee in all matters pertaining to university budget
464 and finances. It shall also submit to the Academic Senate for review and approval
465 academic priorities related to external academic funding. The committee shall be
466 responsible for presenting an analysis of the budget and other financial matters to the
467 Senate for its review, and the executive committee shall forward that review in writing, as
468 adopted by the Senate, to the president and to the Institute Council. The committee shall
469 serve as liaison for the Senate with the vice president for finance and administration and
470 with other appropriate administrators and administrative policy bodies of the university.
471 The committee shall consist of a faculty representative from each college to be elected by
472 his or her collegial faculty, three members at large elected by the Academic Senate, and
473 the vice president for finance and administration or his or her delegate (ex-officio,
474 voting).

475 10.13 **The Student Affairs Committee.** The Student Affairs Committee shall be responsible for
476 policy recommendations relating to academic aspects of student life and shall review
477 other questions and policies related to the quality of student life. It shall also serve as
478 liaison for the Senate in these matters with the appropriate administrative offices and
479 policy committees, and where appropriate, shall submit proposals and recommendations
480 to the Academic Senate. The committee shall consist of a faculty representative from
481 each college to be elected by his or her collegial faculty, four student representatives,
482 including the president of Student Government or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting);
483 and the vice president for Student Affairs or his or her delegate (ex-officio, voting)

484
485 10.14 **Other Committees as Needed.** The Academic Senate may establish by a majority vote
486 other standing committees or ad hoc committees as it deems necessary.
487

488 **ARTICLE XI. THE FACULTY ASSEMBLY**

489
490 The Faculty Assembly is the assembled body of the faculty. The president of the university is the
491 presiding officer of the Assembly. The president shall preside at all meetings of the Faculty
492 Assembly. In the absence of the president, the provost shall preside. The president shall plan and
493 arrange the agenda for the Faculty Assembly meeting in collaboration with the Senate chair. The
494 Assembly normally will be convened by the president at the beginning of the academic year to
495 hear the president's report on the state of the university and plans for university development.
496 The president shall also convene the Assembly on matters of university-wide concern at the
497 request of the Senate, the executive committee acting in the Senate's behalf, or ten percent of the
498 voting members of the faculty. At each meeting of the Assembly, the chair of the Senate shall
499 give account to the Assembly of matters referred to the Senate. The meetings shall normally be
500 open to all members of the RIT community.

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ARTICLE XII. ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACADEMIC DUE PROCESS

12.1 All members of the faculty at the Rochester Institute of Technology are entitled to full freedom in their teaching, studies, creative activities, and research, and in the publication of the results of their research. Likewise, they are entitled to freedom in the classroom in discussing their subjects and material relating to them. It is expected that the aforementioned teaching will be aimed toward achieving the educational objectives agreed upon by the faculty, administration, and the board of trustees.

As teachers and persons of learning, the faculty are aware that the public may judge their profession and the university by their utterances. They shall, therefore, strive to be accurate and to exhibit appropriate professional conduct. They shall respect the views, opinions and sensibilities of others, give appropriate professional consideration to the body of belief held by their audience, and clearly indicate when they are not speaking on behalf of the university.

12.2 Academic due process means that all faculty evaluations shall be carried out according to the norms, criteria, and standards expressed in university policies, and that their application shall be substantive at each stage of the evaluation process.

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ARTICLE XIII. PROVISIONS FOR AMENDING THE CHARTER

Amendments to the Charter of Academic Governance shall require approval by the Senate and a two-thirds majority of the voting members of the faculty at the university level voting by electronic or paper ballot. Concurrence of the president is also required.

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ARTICLE XIV. RESERVATIONS OF TRUSTEE RIGHTS

No provisions herein shall, nor shall be deemed to, derogate from or supersede any rights, powers or duties of the board of trustees under the charter or by-laws of the university, it being understood that such rights, powers, and duties are expressly and fully reserved hereby.

Responsible Party: Academic Senate

Effective Date: Approved November 15, 1995

Policy History:
Amended September 17, 1996
Edited February 4, 1997
Amended October 20, 1998
Amended October 2, 2000
Edited July 2001
Amended April 15, 2002
Edited March 2004

547 Amended November 4, 2004
548 Amended April 5, 2007
549 Amended January 7, 2010
550 Amended May 20, 2010
551 Edited August 2010
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