

**The Initiative Process and  
Submitting Constitutional Amendments to the Electorate  
Academic Senate @ Santa Rosa Junior College  
Wednesday, 3 April 2024  
as prepared by the Academic Senate Executive Committee**

**Consent Item: “*Shall the Academic Senate vote to submit the following Constitutional amendments to the electorate?*”**

**Background**

At the [May 17, 2023 meeting](#) of the Academic Senate, Senators overwhelmingly approved [24 to 1] changes to the Bylaws of the Academic Senate [[markup](#) vs. [clean](#) versions] implemented effective 5/17/23 [[see current Bylaws here](#)]. At that time, proposed changes to the Constitution [[markup](#) vs. [clean](#) versions] - as influenced by the updated Bylaws - were also reviewed but not discussed nor voted on. [As noted in the minutes](#), “*A point of clarification sought whether the AS Constitution was being voted on as well; it was clarified that no, the Constitution had not yet been discussed, is voted on by the faculty electorate as a whole, and will be brought back in the Fall.*”

**Current Status**

The constitution was not “brought back in the Fall” as originally intended, and with current Senator elections underway, we wish to update the Constitution to reflect both the increase in Associate Senators (from four to six); the increase in Academic Senate Executive Committee (ASEC) Membership (having permanently added an Equity Advocate, an At-Large Representative, and an Associate Faculty Representative), and; the District wide adoption of the term “associate” in place of “adjunct”.

**Referendum Process (see [ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENTS, INITIATIVE, AND REFERENDUM](#))**

As per Article VI, Section 1, Clause 1 of the Constitution, “the Senate may vote to submit the amendment(s) to the electorate.”

**Proposal:** Changes to the Constitution in alignment with the expansion of Associate Senators (from four to six), the expansion of ASEC membership (three new permanent roles), and the adoption of the term “associate” in place of “adjunct” District wide are proposed as follows in the Sections indicated on the next page for your consideration.

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**Proposed Changes to ARTICLE III: THE ELECTORATE**

**Section 1:** The Electorate means those who may run for a senate seat, vote in a senate election in their area, and vote for senate president. The electorate consists of all faculty working in one of two conditions: A. Contract, consisting of tenured, tenure-track, and temporary full time faculty; and B. Adjunct, consisting of adjunct **associate** or hourly faculty who are currently employed by the district or have offer rights. Personnel whose job requires an administrative or supervisory credential or who are placed on the administrative salary schedule shall not be members of the senate.

**Proposed Changes to ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE**

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**Section 2:** The Senate shall consist of ~~26~~ **28** senators elected as representatives and any officers who are elected at-large.

**Section 3:** The ~~26~~ **28** elected representatives shall represent at least 44 **13** different areas of the electorate. The method of division into the 44 **13** areas shall be specified in the Bylaws. ~~Four~~ **Six** positions will be reserved for election by the adjunct **associate** electorate as specified in the Bylaws.

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**Section 5:** The officers of the Senate shall be members of the Senate and include the President, President-elect, a Vice President, Executive Secretary, Past President, **Equity Advocate, At-Large Representative, Associate Faculty Representative**, and others as deemed necessary.

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**Section 7:**

The Vice President, ~~and the~~ Executive Secretary, **Equity Advocate, At-Large Representative, and Associate Faculty Representative** shall be elected from among the area representatives and shall serve for two years.

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