

## PROCEDURES FOR VOTES OF CONFIDENCE

On rare occasions, in the course of university business, the faculty may wish to express or record its opinion regarding their administration. These votes are generally described as votes of confidence. A vote of confidence is a statement of the sense of the faculty and not a personnel recommendation. The vote is not binding but is reported to the President and to the appropriate vice president; or to the Chancellor when the administrator is the President of the university. This policy is limited to votes of confidence regarding administrators as defined in Title 5.<sup>1</sup>

### Procedure

- A. Five or more members of the University Faculty, as defined by the Faculty Constitution, may call for a vote of confidence in an administrator by initiating a petition by signature which is then placed in the Office of the Academic Senate. The petition to conduct a vote of confidence shall contain a statement of reasons for calling for the vote.
- B. The Faculty Senate Office will notify the Parliamentarian and Senate Executive Committee which will review the petition for completion and coordinate separate petitions. The Senate Executive Committee will then notify the administrator involved, and in the case of college level administrators the chair of the relevant faculty committee in the college/school that the petition is available for signature. A copy of the petition shall be attached to the notification.

The Faculty Senate Office shall electronically distribute a copy of the petition (without signatures) and these procedures via Wright State email to the appropriate faculty constituency as defined in Section G below.

The petition will be available for signature using the university's supported online survey system for ten (10) instructional days from the date of the notification by the Faculty Senate Office.

- C. In order for a vote of confidence to occur, the petition must be signed by thirty percent (30%) of the full-time faculty members of the college/school. In cases of academic administrators who do not have responsibilities for a college/school, the petition must be signed by thirty percent (30%) of the full-time members of the Faculty Senate.
- D. Each petitioner shall sign a separate copy of the petition so that each person submitting a petition has no knowledge of those who sign before or after them. The petitions will be made available in the Academic Senate Office. Only full-time faculty members from the college/school or Academic Assembly, as appropriate, are eligible to sign a petition.

The list of full-time faculty eligible to sign the petition or to vote will be established from the list of full-time faculty certified by the Office of Academic Personnel Services to the Academic Senate during the proceeding October.

- E. After the conclusion of the ten instructional days if there are at least thirty percent (30%) of the full-time faculty requesting a vote, the Faculty Senate Office will draw up a ballot and announce the date of the vote.<sup>2</sup> The voting shall commence no more than ten (10) instructional days after the 30% requirement has been met.

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<sup>1</sup> See Management Personnel Plan, *California Code of Regulations*, Title 5 Section 42720 - 42728

- F. The vote will be by secret ballot, following the normal procedures for a senate ballot.
- G. Within ten (10) instructional days after the completion of the balloting, the Faculty Senate Office will present the report of the vote to the University Parliamentarian and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.
- H. The report of the vote shall include
  - 1. the number of faculty who were eligible to vote;
  - 2. the total number of faculty who voted;
  - 3. the total number of faculty who voted confidence in the administrator;
  - 4. the total number of faculty who voted no confidence in the administrator.
- I. In the case of a vote with respect to an administrator with college/school responsibilities, the Faculty Senate Office shall provide a written report to the appropriate faculty committee in the college/school, and the affected administrator with a copy to the President and the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. The faculty committee in the college/school shall forward the results to the Faculty of the college/school
- J. In the case of a vote with respect to an administrator with university wide responsibilities, the Senate Executive Committee shall provide a written report to the affected administrator with a copy to the President and the appropriate vice president or provost. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall forward the results to the University Faculty.
- K. In the case of a vote of confidence with respect to the President, the the Senate Executive Committee shall provide a written report to the chair of the Board of Trustees and the President. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall forward the results to the University Faculty.
- L. In the case of a vote of confidence with respect to one or more Trustees or the Board of Trustees, the Senate Executive Committee shall provide a written report to the Trustee(s), chair of the Board of Trustees, the President, and the Chancellor of the Ohio Department of Higher Education. The Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall forward the results to the University Faculty.
- M. A vote of confidence may be taken with respect to an administrator no more than once every eighteen months.

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<sup>2</sup> See Appendix A for the sample ballot.

<sup>3</sup> In the event that the vote is being held on a dean or associate dean, the member of the Nominating Elections Committee from that college/school shall not be present.

- N. Regardless of the outcome of the vote, the direct supervisor <sup>4</sup> shall meet in executive session with the college/school executive committee or the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate, as appropriate, to discuss the reasons for the vote and the results of the vote. The direct supervisor may request additional information from the appropriate committee.
- O. Regardless of the outcome of the vote, the direct supervisor shall discuss the vote as well as any additional information received from the appropriate committee with the affected administrator. The direct supervisor shall inform the appropriate faculty after the discussion with the affected administrator that this meeting has occurred.

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Recommended by the Faculty Senate  
Approved by the President

Date  
**Date**

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<sup>4</sup> This provision does not apply when the vote of confidence is with respect to the President. In such cases, the systemwide procedures will be implemented.

**APPENDIX A**  
**SAMPLE BALLOT**

VOTE OF CONFIDENCE

PURSUANT TO THE ATTACHED PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT OF THE COLLEGE/SCHOOL (OR ~~ACADEMIC ASSEMBLY~~ UNIVERSITY FACULTY), A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE HAS BEEN REQUESTED ON

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
TITLE

I HAVE

\_\_\_\_\_ **CONFIDENCE** IN THIS PERSON AS AN ADMINISTRATOR

\_\_\_\_\_ **NO CONFIDENCE** IN THIS PERSON AS AN ADMINISTRATOR

(A COPY OF THE PETITION REQUESTING THIS VOTE IS ON THE REVERSE SIDE)