

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics  
California State University, Long Beach**

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS**

May 12, 2020\*

These bylaws are the rules by which the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics shall operate in conformity to university policy and the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

**ARTICLE I THE TENURED/PROBATIONARY FACULTY OF THE COLLEGE**

**Section 1.100 Name and Membership**

1.101 The name of this body shall be the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, henceforth referred to as the Faculty of the College.

1.102 Membership in this body shall comprise all those who hold tenured/probationary appointments, except as noted in Section 1.104, in any of the departments of the college with the rank of assistant professor, associate professor, professor, and such others as the members shall, by majority vote, admit to membership.

1.103 Membership in this body shall not lapse because of leave of absence or administrative assignment.

1.104 Participants in the Faculty Early Retirement Program and in the Preretirement Reduction in Time Base Program shall have full voting rights only in the semester(s) of employment.

**Section 1.200 Officers of the Faculty of the College for the Purpose of Meetings of the Faculty of the College**

1.201 The dean of the college shall be the presiding officer of the faculty.

1.202 The other officers shall include, but shall not be restricted to, a vice-chair, who is the chair of the college council, and a secretary, who is the secretary of the college council, none of whom shall hold simultaneous administrative appointments in the college as dean, associate dean, or department chair.

**Section 1.300 Powers of the Faculty of the College**

1.301 The Faculty of the College shall take no action that abridges the autonomy of any department.

1.302 The Faculty of the College may present to the Academic Senate, vice presidents, or the president of the university, all matters regarded as of general concern to the welfare of the college or of the university, after notifying the dean.

1.303 The Faculty of the College shall establish committees and define their duties.

1.304 The Faculty of the College shall meet at the call of the dean, the council, or at the written request of at least 10% of the Faculty of the College to the dean. Twenty-five percent of the Faculty of the College shall constitute a quorum for college meetings, except for the meeting

called to receive additional nominations from the floor for college or university-wide committees (Section 3.112), for which no quorum is required.

## **ARTICLE II THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE**

Section 2.100 The office of the dean shall consist of the dean and associate deans, each of whom shall hold retreat rights in one of the academic departments of the college. The associate deans shall serve at the pleasure of the dean.

2.101 The dean is the chief administrative officer of the college. The dean's legal authority for meeting responsibilities of the office shall be that delegated by the president of the university.

2.102 The dean shall be responsible for developing and maintaining an academic and administrative environment conducive to the achievement of the highest standards of student scholarship and the professional growth of the faculty.

2.103 The dean shall represent the college in the council of deans and shall advise the office of the provost of the university concerning the interests of the college.

2.104 The dean may establish advisory groups.

2.105 The dean shall appoint a replacement, with the advice of the college council, to fill any vacancy on an elected committee if an alternate is not available. The appointed person shall serve until an election can be held.

2.106 The dean shall facilitate communication among the college representatives on the CSULB Academic Senate, college representatives on the university councils, and members of the college council, by providing assistance with such activities as arrangements for caucuses or other such meetings as may be deemed useful.

## **ARTICLE III NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS COLLEGE COUNCIL**

Section 3.100 This council shall be the elected representative body when the Faculty of the College is not meeting.

3.101 Each of the separate departments shall elect at least one council member from among its tenured and probationary faculty members who have served at least four years at CSULB and who are not currently serving as department chair. The departmental election of council members shall be by secret ballot. Each department shall be entitled to at least one council member and shall elect an alternate to serve in the absence of an elected representative. Those departments with at least 27 tenured and probationary faculty members shall elect two council members and alternates. The election shall be held in the spring semester for the council term beginning the following fall semester.

3.102 Members of the council shall be elected to two-year terms.

3.103 The council will coordinate elections of individuals so that council members shall serve staggered two-year terms.

3.104 Any department, by secret ballot, may recall its representative(s) on the council for cause. Two-thirds of the eligible voters of the department must vote in favor of recall.

3.105 The dean of the college or designee shall be a voting member of the council.

3.106 The council shall elect its own chair and secretary and other officers as deemed necessary from among its elected representatives. These officers shall constitute the Rules Committee which will be responsible for formulating the agenda for council and college meetings.

3.107 The council shall determine the time and place of its meetings and shall make available the agenda and the approved minutes of its meetings to the Faculty of the College.

3.108 The council may request from the office of the dean any materials relevant to a matter before the council.

3.109 The council may establish such special committees as are necessary for the operation of the college.

3.110 The council shall serve as the nominating committee for elected college representatives to university committees, councils and the Academic Senate. Additional nominations may be made from the floor at a meeting of the Faculty of the College called for that purpose.

3.111 The chair of the council shall appoint convening chairs for all elected college committees.

3.112 At the last meeting of the academic year, the council for the next year shall elect its chair and secretary for the next academic year.

#### **ARTICLE IV NSM COUNCIL OF DEPARTMENT CHAIRS (CDC)**

Section 4.100 The NSM Council of Department Chairs shall consist of the chair of each department and the dean of the college.

4.101 The dean shall chair the council. The associate deans shall be *ex officio*, nonvoting members of the council.

4.102 The council shall have primary responsibility for coordination of matters between departments of the college and the office of the dean.

4.103 The meetings of the council shall be open to all members of the Faculty of the College. Minutes of the meetings shall be distributed to the faculty of the College.

4.104 The NSM Council of Department Chairs shall act on all budgetary matters of the college and shall function in accord to the budget procedure defined in Section 4.105.

4.105 The NSM Council of Department Chairs shall establish guidelines for allocation of funds, subject to approval by the dean.

4.106 Budget guidelines and final allocations of all resources approved by the dean shall be distributed to the department chairs and other budget-reporting units.

#### **ARTICLE V STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE COLLEGE**

There shall be at least the following standing committees:

Curriculum

Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion  
Professional Leave  
Grade Appeals and Student Affairs  
Elections  
Proposals Review  
Awards

These committees shall work in accord with college, university, and system policies.

### **Section 5.100 NSM Curriculum Committee**

5.101 Each department shall elect one member of this committee. The committee member shall be a tenured or probationary faculty member who has served in the department for at least four years. The associate dean responsible for undergraduate curriculum shall act as secretary. Members shall serve staggered two-year terms and shall also be members of their department's curriculum committee.

5.102 This committee shall function on curricular matters in accord with the curricular development process as defined in Section 7.400 of this document.

### **Section 5.200 NSM Reappointment, Tenure, and Promotion Committee**

5.201 This committee shall consist of six tenured members with the rank of professor, elected by the Faculty of the College by secret ballot. The committee shall consist of one member from each department unless a representative cannot be nominated from one department. In this latter case a sixth member shall be elected from the pool of eligible faculty for a one-year term. The dean, associate deans, and faculty members participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program are not eligible.

5.202 Each department shall submit its nominations to the college council.

5.203 Members shall serve staggered two-year terms and may serve no more than four consecutive years.

5.204 The committee shall function in accordance with university and college RTP policies.

### **Section 5.300 NSM Professional Leave Committee**

5.301 This committee shall consist of one tenured member from each department, elected by the Faculty of the College by secret ballot. If a representative cannot be elected from one department, the committee will operate with five members. The dean and associate deans are not eligible to serve.

5.302 Each department shall submit its nominations to the college council.

5.303 Members will serve one-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive years.

5.304 The committee shall function in accordance with university professional leave policy.

### **Section 5.400 NSM Grade Appeals Committee**

This committee shall consist of three faculty members (which may include a lecturer),

appointed by the dean, and one student member, appointed by Associated Students, Inc. The dean or the dean's designee shall serve as a nonvoting, *ex officio* member.

There shall be no more than one faculty member from each department.

Members shall serve one-year terms and may not serve more than three consecutive years.

The student member shall not be eligible to hold any office of this committee.

The committee shall have responsibility for grade appeals. Decisions shall be implemented in accordance with existing university grade appeals policy.

### **Section 5.500 NSM Elections Committee**

The committee shall consist of three tenured or probationary faculty members appointed by the dean.

There shall be no more than one member from any single department.

Members shall serve one-year terms and may not serve more than two consecutive years.

The committee shall supervise all elections of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics as specified by the council or the dean following the protocols described in Article VI.

Results of all elections shall be reported in writing to the council chair, the dean, and to the Faculty of the College within three instructional days after the deadline for the close of balloting.

### **Section 5.600 NSM Proposals Review Committee**

The committee shall consist of one tenured member from each department, approved by the college council. The dean and associate deans are not eligible to serve.

Members will serve one-year terms.

The committee shall review and rank faculty proposals for reassigned time, summer stipends, and mini-grants according to senate policies and university procedures.

No one submitting a proposal subject to review by this committee shall serve on this committee.

Whenever a vacancy occurs on the committee, the college council shall appoint a replacement member to serve the remainder of the term.

### **Section 5.700 NSM Awards Committee**

5.701 The committee shall consist of three tenured faculty members appointed by the dean from the ranks of active college faculty members who are past recipients of one or more of the distinguished awards specified by senate policy. If three qualified faculty members are not available to serve, the dean shall appoint the remainder of the committee from the ranks of tenured faculty in the college.

5.702 Members shall serve one-year terms.

5.703 The committee shall review and rank applications submitted to the dean for the distinguished awards specified by senate policy. The committee will forward its recommendation and ranking, along with the nominees' materials, to the senate to be delivered to the university awards committee for consideration.

## **ARTICLE VI VOTING AND ELECTION PROCEDURES**

Section 6.100 The following procedures shall govern all college-level votes or elections except amendments to the constitution and by-laws (see VIII).

6.101 The college council shall oversee the preparation of ballots, and their distribution to the Faculty of the College.

6.102 The ballots shall list the nominees in no particular order with departmental designation.

6.103 At least five (5) instructional days shall elapse between the time the ballot is issued and the deadline for its return.

6.104 In order to be elected, a candidate must receive the majority of the votes cast in that election.

6.105 In the event that a run-off ballot is required, those persons with the fewest votes on the first ballot shall be dropped until the subsequent ballot has one more name than the total number needed, consistent with any constraints regarding departmental affiliation.

6.106 In the case of an election where members are to be elected for varying terms of office, the person(s) getting the higher number of votes shall be declared elected for the longer term(s).

6.107 If there is a tie vote among the elected members, the decision for a longer term will be made by drawing lots.

6.108 Each department shall elect an alternate member to serve in the absence of a regular member on the college council. The alternate shall be the runner-up in the election of a regular member. The alternate for each university council and the academic senate shall be the runner-up for that position in the most recent college election. If the vacancy is temporary, the alternate shall serve until the elected member is able to resume her/his position. If the vacancy is permanent, the alternate shall serve until the next regular college election. (See Section 2.105 for procedures if no alternate is available.)

6.109 All ballots will be retained by the college office for 30 instructional days.

6.110 Any challenge to the outcome of a vote must be lodged with the council chair within ten instructional days after the publication of the results.

## **ARTICLE VII OPERATIONS**

### **Section 7.100 Changes to Existing, Written College Policy other than the RTP Policy and the**

## **Constitution and By-laws or Proposals for New, Written College Policy**

7.101 Proposals for new college policy and amendments to existing college policy may be proposed by the dean, college council, any faculty committee, or any member of the Faculty of the College.

7.102 All such proposals shall be deliberated first by the college council, which may refer any proposal to an appropriate committee. The recommendation of the council will be forwarded to the dean for action.

7.103 The dean may implement the recommendation or return the proposal to the college council for further consideration.

7.104 If the action of the college council or the dean is deemed unsatisfactory by the proposer, proposals to amend an existing college policy or to create a new college policy may be brought directly to the Faculty of the College by petition provided the petition is signed and dated by 10% of the Faculty of the College as defined in Section 1.100 and is completed and delivered to the dean within the academic year in which it was started.

7.105 When such a petition is presented to the dean, the dean or the dean's designee shall call a meeting of the Faculty of the College for the purpose of discussing the proposal. The faculty meeting shall be held within ten working days of the receipt of the petition. The proposal shall be distributed to the Faculty of the College at least five working days prior to the meeting.

7.106 Upon the recommendation of the members of the Faculty of the College present at a meeting at which a quorum is present and within ten working days of the conclusion of said meeting a ballot shall be issued on the proposal. Faculty members shall be given the opportunity to submit written ballot arguments before issuance of the ballot. The ballot shall be accompanied by a full statement of the proposal and the ballot arguments, if any.

7.107 Processing of the petition and voting may proceed into the subsequent academic year, if necessary.

7.108 The proposal shall become college policy if it receives a favorable vote of two-thirds of the votes cast and shall be effective immediately unless another effective date is explicitly stated within the ballot.

### **Section 7.200 Curriculum Development Process**

7.201 All curriculum proposals, changes in present offerings, new courses, and new interdisciplinary programs shall originate with the departments involved or the college as appropriate.

7.202 Curriculum proposals must be prepared using the format developed by the university.

7.203 Departments shall forward curriculum proposals to the NSM Curriculum Committee.

7.204 The NSM Curriculum Committee shall review and approve curriculum proposals.

7.205 The associate dean responsible for curriculum shall forward approved curriculum proposals to the appropriate university office.

## **Article VIII AMENDMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF THIS DOCUMENT**

8.100 The college council shall have the authority to propose amendments to this document.

8.101 Amendments may also be proposed by a petition of 10% of the Faculty of the College presented to the chair of the college council.

8.102 All amendments proposed under Section 8.100 or 8.101 shall be distributed in writing to the Faculty of the College at least ten instructional days prior to a meeting of the Faculty of the College called for the discussion of these amendments.

8.103 Any amendment proposed under Sections 8.100 or 8.101 may be amended at the meeting of the Faculty of the College at which the initial discussion of the amendment is held, provided that such an amendment to the originally proposed amendment is in writing and copies are distributed to the Faculty of the College at least five instructional days prior to the meeting.

8.104 All amendments to this constitution in their final form as approved at the meeting by majority vote shall be submitted to the Faculty of the College for approval by secret ballot.

8.105 An amendment to this document shall become effective when it has received two-thirds affirmative votes cast by the Faculty of the College by secret ballot, is found to conform to university policy and the collective bargaining agreement, and is approved by the dean and provost.

8.106 Questions regarding the interpretation of this document and its appendices shall be resolved by the college council subject to approval by the dean.

### **Constitution History:**

\*February 21, 1978: Original document approved by the School of Natural Sciences Faculty.

April 29, 1981: Amendments to the original document approved by vote of the Faculty of the School of Natural Sciences.

December 17, 1993: Amended by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

October 16, 1995: Amended by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

November 5, 1997: Article V, Section 5.031 revised by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

February 19, 2004: Comprehensive revision approved by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

March 14, 2012: Comprehensive revision approved by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.

September 28, 2012: Editorial changes approved by the college council.

May 12, 2020: Article V, Section 5.201 revised by vote of the Faculty of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics.