

# Proposed University Senate Structure

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Subcommittee: Paul KaT4TfTfr93TcT270Td(Senate)Tj/C211Tf0Tc002185sW5sW82esT5570.7020.886e0

## Discussion of Shared Governance Models

Shortly after the formation of the shared governance committee, there began a series of discussions about what the appropriate model or structure would be for facilitating shared governance. While everyone confirmed the value and importance of the existing Faculty Senate as one of the mechanisms for shared governance, the committee remained undecided about how to best incorporate others that were part of ULM (i.e., staff, students, alumni).

Once staff representation was discussed, many felt that attempting to expand shared governance through the Faculty Senate only structure would not work.

The options for the shared governance committee are many. The deliberations have included a variety of models and approaches. All of these, however, essentially revert back to the same questions:

Who participates in shared governance?

What structure best represents ULM?

What system encourages more cooperation and less conflict?

In addressing these fundamental concerns, the shared governance committee has proposed a broad framework based on Louisiana Tech's University Senate (<http://www.latech.edu/universitysenate/>).

Representation for faculty and staff (as well as students and alumni) has been a major source of discussion, disagreement and finally some resolution. Still, what is offered below is a place to begin, not end. There are many models for shared governance.

Other options within the UL System would include:

<http://www.mcneese.edu/depts/facsenate/>

<http://www2.selu.edu/Academics/Depts/FacSen/>

<http://www.louisiana.edu/Faculty/Senate/>

Other prominent examples:

<http://www.tulane.edu/~usenate/>

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/senate/>

<http://www2.gsu.edu/~wwwsen/>

<http://senate.osu.edu/>

<http://www.suny.edu/facultySenate/>

## Explanation of Representation

The Shared Governance Models Subcommittee was charged with the task of researching and recommending a shared governance model to be submitted to ULM focus groups.

The following proposal is based upon ULM 2007 – 2008 Organizational Chart and ULM Fall 2007 Human Resources data as of the standard reporting census date of November 1<sup>st</sup>, as collected for state and federal reporting.

Each of the following factors were considered by the subcommittee when constructing the proposed allotment:

It is essential to keep the total number of seats within a manageable number of 40 or less. This reflects the size of other representation models across the country.

It should represent faculty, staff, students, and alumni.

The structure should follow the organizational chart, following the Vice Presidential divisions. In Academic Affairs, non academic departments are to be considered independently of academic departments.

- It is suggested that certain non academic offices to be designated a seat due, in part, to the continual need for information and feedback from these areas (i.e., University Police, Human Resources, Enrollment Management, University Library, and others).
- Other non specified non academic departments will be represented through the remaining seat for the specified area.
- For academic areas, it is suggested, according to student enrollment and full time faculty, that Arts and Sciences hold 6 seats with the other colleges holding 3 seats each. Note: The Graduate Studies and Research should be included in the Academic areas.
- One of the Deans should hold a seat on the University Senate. It is intended that the Deans should rotate on a yearly basis.

It is recommended that Department Heads, both academic and non academic, be eligible to serve.

The officers for the University Senate will be elected from within the 38 members.

Note: The nomination, election, and term details for the University Senate still needs to be determined. [President, President elect, Past President, Secretary]

The following amendments to the proposal were added by the Shared Governance Committee:

An Alumni representative be added, and reflected in the External Affairs seats.

For the first year only, the Past President will be the outgoing Faculty Senate President. After that time, the outgoing University Senate President will hold this position.

The committee felt that these topics needed to be addressed as further discussion takes place about the structure and responsibility of the chosen governance model.

Updates from university departments presented to the governing body in a scheduled manner, i.e., Student Affairs would address policy changes biannually, if appropriate.

Nomination procedure

Term limits / rotations

Committee structure

LA Tech model appears to be the example of choice

The following proposal is based upon ULM 2007 – 2008 Organizational Chart and ULM

Table 2.a – Non Academic Representation

Division	Type	Area	# Departments	Total Employees	
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Table 2.b – Non Academic Representation (continued)

Division	Type	Area	# Departments	Total Employees	Total FT Employees			Total Seats
	Non Academic		10	290	284			4
Business Affairs		Facilities and Physical Plant combined						
		Human Resources						
		Computing Center						
		All remaining areas in Business Affairs, including: Auxiliary Enterprises, Controller's Office, Budget and						

The following



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT MONROE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

