

Faculty Senate

M2020.21.34 Motion to Add Term Limit to Faculty Trustee

Originator: Executive Committee

Whereas,

As required by Tennessee Focus Act, the University of Memphis Faculty Senate developed [guidelines](#) related to qualifications, expectations, and selection of the faculty trustee in Fall 2016.

Whereas,

The Faculty Senate at East Tennessee State University adopted a 2 term limit for their Faculty Trustee. The Faculty Senate at Austin Peay State University adopted a 2 term limit for their Faculty Trustee. The Faculty Senate at Tennessee State University adopted a 2 term limit with a 4 year gap before the same person could serve as the Faculty Trustee again.

Whereas,

Term limits with a well-crafted succession planning for trustees can help achieve the proper balance between stagnation and a sudden infusion of new ideas on the board, according to the [Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges](#).

Be it resolved that,

With the authority granted by Tennessee Focus Act, the Faculty Senate approves amendment of its Faculty Trustee guidelines in the Section ‘**About**’ with the term limit indicated in red as follows:

About

The Faculty Trustee is one of the ten members of the University of Memphis Board of Trustees and serves a two-year term. **A Faculty Trustee who has served three full terms in succession as a member of the Board shall, for a period of two (2) years, be ineligible for election or appointment to the Board.** As required by statute, the University of Memphis Faculty Senate has the sole responsibility for the selection of the Faculty Trustee. The Board is responsible for the management and governance of the University, as allowed by and subject to limitations imposed by applicable federal and state law and certain powers and duties maintained by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission. As the primary conduit between the Board and faculty, the Faculty Trustee will communicate and consult with the Faculty Senate on Board-related matters. The Faculty Trustee must balance perceived obligations to represent the faculty interests expressed by the Faculty Senate with the broader fiduciary interests of the institution.

Recipients:

Faculty Senate Office

Melanie Murray, Secretary, University of Memphis Board of Trustees