The Senate Constitution s III E 1 (Executive Committee) presently contains the sentence, "A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be four of the seven voting members of the committee." With last year's changes in university organization, the number of voting members was reduced to six.

The By-laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee therefore proposes that the second sentence of the second paragraph of s III E 1 be amended to read:

A quorum for the Executive Committee shall be four of the six members of the committee.

Senator Chair Joan Krenzin, wishing to formalize a long-standing practice of the Senate, asked the By-laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee to consider the following change in the constitution. Having done so, the committee recommends the following addition to s III E 1 (Executive Committee):

The Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, and the Parliamentarian shall sit ex-officio and non-voting.

The Constitution is silent on the question of whether the officers of the Faculty Senate are elected by majority or plurality vote, although Sturgis specifies that it should be a majority unless provision is made otherwise.

Sturgis also specifies that the vote necessary should be fixed in the by-laws (constitution).

The By-laws, Amendments, and Elections Committee therefore proposes that to s III C 3b (Election of the Officers of the Faculty Senate) be added the words:

Election to office shall be by a majority of those present and voting.

There has been in past Senates some confusion about the right to vote on questions before the body. The following amendment, proposed by Senator and former Parliamentarian John Long, is recommended for passage by the By-laws, Amendments and Elections Committee. We recommend that to s III D (Meetings and Rules of Procedure) and as number 6, the following be added:

The right to vote shall be vested in the members of the Senate.
Subsequent items would be re-numbered to accommodate the constitution.