

**To:** The University Senate  
**From:** The Faculty Affairs Committee  
**Subject:** University Senate Quorum Standard  
**Reference:** Bylaw 4.07: Quorum  
**Disposition:** University Senate for Discussion and Adoption

**Rationale:** Bylaw 4.07 currently states that 51 members of the Senate constitute a quorum. This, though, is a holdover from when the Senate comprised 102 members. There are currently 104 Senators.

**Proposal:** Bylaw 4.07 will be amended to state that quorum is 50% of Senators plus one.

**Current:**

## 4.07 Quorum

Fifty-one members of the Senate constitute a quorum. No substitute is permitted to serve during the absence of a Senator. The Sergeant-at-Arms determines the presence of a quorum at the beginning of each meeting and at other times at the request of the presiding officer. On instruction from the presiding officer, the Sergeant-at-Arms may attempt to secure the attendance of additional members of the Senate needed to complete a quorum. (Once a Senate meeting begins, the presence of a quorum is determined only upon request from the floor of the Senate.)

**Proposed:**

## 4.07 Quorum

**50% of Senators plus one additional member constitute a quorum.** No substitute is permitted to serve during the absence of a Senator. The Sergeant-at-Arms determines the presence of a quorum at the beginning of each meeting and at other times at the request of the presiding officer. On instruction from the presiding officer, the Sergeant-at-Arms may attempt to secure the attendance of additional members of the Senate needed to complete a quorum. (Once a Senate meeting begins, the presence of a quorum is determined only upon request from the floor of the Senate.)

**Committee Votes:**

**For:**

Françoise Brosseau-Lapré\*  
Patricia Davies  
Angeline Lyon  
Stephanie Masta  
Jennifer Scheuer  
Anish Vanaik\*  
Eric Waltenburg

**Against:**

N/A

**Abstained:**

Lisa Mauer

**Absent:**

Arezoo Arkedani  
Stephen Cameron  
Michael Campion  
Ajay Malshe  
Sunil Prabhakar  
J. Paul Robinson

\*Indicates co-chairs