



**Welcome to the 2026-27
New Senator Orientation!**

**Thank you for joining us
today!**

Meet our Senate Leadership!

Julio Ramirez, Chair senate-chair@purdue.edu

Dianne Little, Vice Chair little33@purdue.edu

Joe Camp, Secretary of Faculties secoffac@purdue.edu

Se'Andra Johnson, Executive Assistant to the Senate sddonald@purdue.edu

Bree Richards, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Senate blrichar@purdue.edu

What brings us together today?

**The answer is
straightforward: it must be
done.**

UNIVERSITY SENATE DOCUMENT 66-11
20 February 1967
Approved by the University Senate on
20 February 1967

TO: University Senate
FROM: Faculty Affairs Committee
RE: Orientation of New Members of the Senate

It is recommended that the following procedure be adopted.

The Purdue University Senate asks all newly elected members of the Senate to meet as soon as possible, after election, with the parliamentarian as Chairman. The parliamentarian will orient the members to the content of the University Code and By-laws of the Senate, its Committee responsibilities and the general conduct and procedures of the Senate.

2.07 KNOWLEDGE OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY SENATE BYLAWS



At the start of each academic year, all newly elected Senators must complete a training course on the Purdue University Senate Bylaws, administered by the Secretary of Facilities. Senators may not participate in regular Senate meeting or Committee meeting votes until the training is completed.

1. Refresher courses are not required for Senators serving either continuous or non-continuous terms.
2. Interim Senators (e.g., those serving in place of absent Senators due to sabbatical, FMLA, etc.) are relieved of this requirement.

Senate History

A Brief Background

The Senate was established by Executive Council Document 63-3, ratified by mail ballot, and approved by the Board of Trustees. It convened for the first time on Monday, 16 November 1964 at 2:30pm.

Fun Fact: November 16, 2026, will mark the 62nd anniversary of the Senate's first meeting! 62 years of faculty shared governance at Purdue!

The Senate was created as a result of the Committee on Reorganization, which was appointed by the Board of Trustees. It replaced an Executive Council.

The first remarks to the Senate were made by President Hovde.

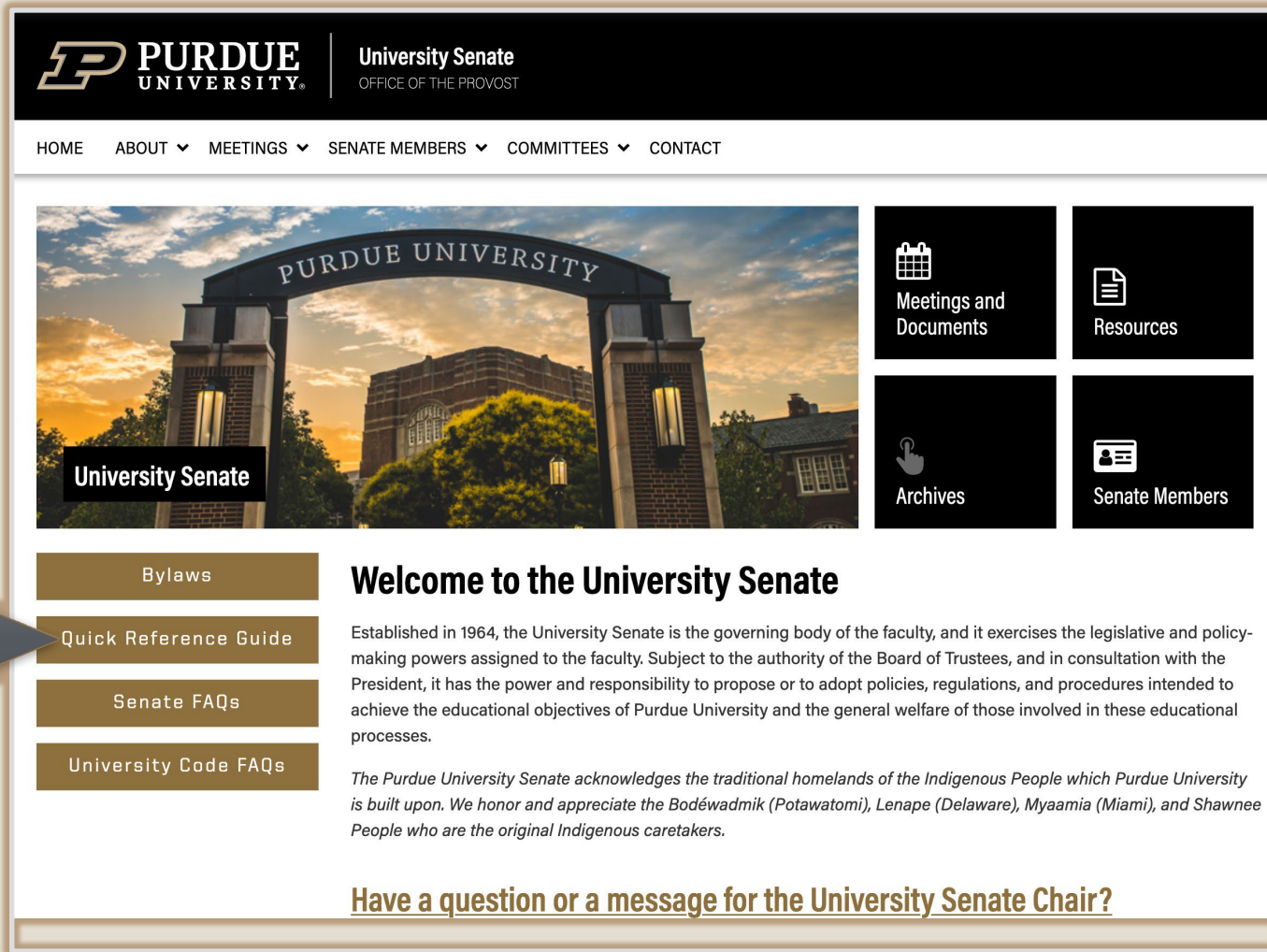
Then (1964)	Now (2026)
86 Senators and 8 Advisers; no students	106 Senators and up to 16 Advisers; 2 student Senators
No Senate chair or vice chair Vice President for Academic Affairs Paul Chenea presided	Chair created in 1969 Vice chair created in 1990 (but not directly elected until 2004)
A committee was tasked with creating bylaws	Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC) is periodically tasked with revising the bylaws
People complained (often) about quorum problems	Virtual meetings have—so far—decreased absenteeism from 30% to under 10%

The Plan for Today

- 1. Where to find information about the Senate**
- 2. What is a Senator's job?**
- 3. What are Committees?**
- 4. How does the Senate work & how to participate**
 - **How (and when) things get done**
 - **Basic parliamentary know-how**
- 5. Other questions?**

Where Do I Find Information?

The website is a good reference; it's updated often



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University Code FAQs

University Senate FAQs

University Senate Quick Reference Guide

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RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATOR	+
HOW TO GET INFORMATION FROM LEADERSHIP TEAMS	+
QUESTION TIME	+
SENATE DOCUMENTS	+
CALENDAR FOR INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO THE SENATE, 2026-2027	+
BASIC PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURE	+
BEST PRACTICES FOR PRESENTING TO THE SENATE	+
HOW TO GET LEGISLATION PLACED BEFORE THE SENATE	+
SENATOR COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS	+
MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS	+
IMPORTANT DATES 2026-2027	+

Pay special attention to the Meetings & Documents page

- ROI (Résumé of items)
- Status of Legislation Calendar
- Document Submission Form
- Meeting Schedule

The screenshot shows the Purdue University Senate website. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Find Info For', 'Apply', 'News', 'President', 'Shop', 'Visit', 'Give', and 'Emergency'. The main header features the Purdue University logo and 'University Senate'. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links for 'HOME', 'ABOUT', 'MEETINGS', 'SENATE MEMBERS', 'COMMITTEES', 'CONTACT', and 'BTAA SENATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE'. A breadcrumb trail indicates the current location: 'Meetings > Agenda & Documents'. The page content is divided into two columns. The left column contains three links: 'Résumé of Items', 'Status of Legislation', and 'Senate Document Submission Form'. The right column has a large heading 'Agenda & Documents' followed by the years '2026-27' in a large, bold font. Below this, a list of dates is provided: Monday, September 14, 2026; Monday, October 19, 2026; Monday, November 16, 2026; Monday January 25, 2027; Monday, February 15, 2027; Monday, March 22, 2027; and Monday, April 19, 2027.

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Meetings > Agenda & Documents

Résumé of Items

Status of Legislation

Senate Document Submission Form

Agenda & Documents

2026-27

- Monday, September 14, 2026
- Monday, October 19, 2026
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[Meetings](#) > [SENATE MEETINGS 2026-27](#) > **September 14, 2026**

SENATE MEETINGS 2026-27

September 14, 2026

2:30 PM, ET

Virtual Zoom

[University Senate Livestream](#) [↗](#)

- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Remarks](#)
 - [Senate Chair](#)
 - [Purdue University President](#)
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- [Agenda](#)
- [Minutes](#)
- [Newsletter](#)
- [Remarks](#)
- [Slides and presentations](#)
- [All Senate Documents](#)

August
2026

AND ALSO

The Secretary of Faculties Office



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What is my job here?

What am I supposed to do? Whom do I represent?

Senators are elected by their academic units and represent their interests

- Come to the Senate meetings, and please come prepared
 - Read the materials *ahead of time*, and, to the extent possible, know what your constituents think of them so that you may represent their views
 - Be ready to vote; know what you are voting on
 - If you don't? "I rise to request information."
- Always keep your units informed of what the Senate is up to; we circulate a newsletter within a day or so of each new Senate meeting to help with this.
- Serve on a Standing Committee: we need nearly full participation to populate the committees, which do much of the Senate's crucial work

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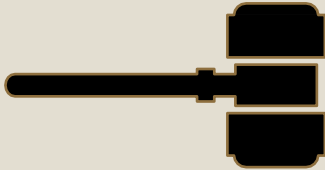
Committees

Most of the Senate's work is done in committee

- The work of Standing Committees is generally presented in the form of numbered Documents
- Documents to be presented to the Senate must be submitted to the Steering Committee for agenda assignment (Steering meets 2 weeks before the Senate does)
- Documents are first submitted “for discussion,” and final action usually waits until the next meeting that includes the Document on its agenda
- The Senate may also request reports on pressing issues; this is normally handled through the Steering Committee

A brief but emphatic note on scheduling:

**Documents for Steering are due at NOON
the FRIDAY BEFORE STEERING MEETS**



We cannot make exceptions,
even though you are our favorite.

**Presentations, slides, amendments, etc. are due at
NOON the FRIDAY BEFORE THE SENATE MEETS**

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How Stuff Works

MAY I SPEAK AT SENATE MEETINGS?

SURE, YOU CAN!

All Senators and Advisors to the Senate have full floor privileges.

Non-Senators may speak at the Senate if invited to do so by the Steering Committee or the meeting's presider.

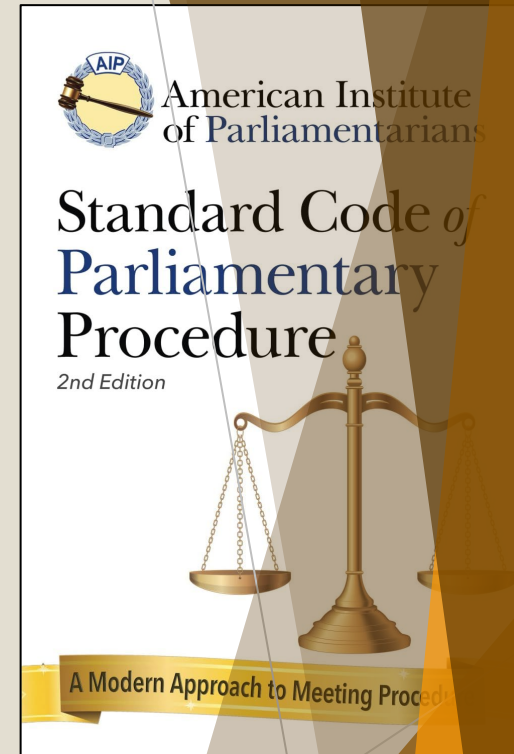
But there are rules, of course:

- Please wait to be recognized by the presider
- Always address the matter before the Senate, never the Senators
- Speakers should cede ground to others if they have already spoken up on a matter
- On Zoom calls, the chat is for contacting the Parliamentarian, not for sharing with the group

If you want to dig in on procedure:

There are several main resources

- The Bylaws
 - On the website; searchable / printable version available there as well
- The American Institute of Parliamentarians Standard Code
 - We will send you a copy! Just ask!
- Ask the Secretary of Faculties or Se'Andra Johnson or Bree Richards
- Consult with the Steering Committee ([Lisa Bosman](#), Chair)



What should I know about

- The composition and apportionment of the Senate, and eligibility to serve are explained
- The rights and responsibilities of Senators are enumerated
- Disciplinary procedures are explained
- Committee composition and charges are described
- How to call a special meeting
- Which rules can be suspended
- How to change the Bylaws

What should I know about

Rights and privileges of Senators include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Attend Senate meetings
- Respect and be respected
- Speak openly
- Ask questions, and rise to a parliamentary or factual inquiry
- Be heard
- Present proposals
- Oppose proposals
- Propose motions
- Nominate candidates for office
- Be a candidate for office
- Vote on motions
- Express an opinion freely and without interruption or interference, provided that the rules for debate, which are applicable to all members, are observed
- Know the meaning of the question before the assembly and what its effect will be
- Request information from or through the presiding officer on any motion they do not understand so that they may vote intelligently

What should I know about the Bylaws?

Responsibilities include:

- Protect the parliamentary rights of all members
- Act in fairness and good faith
- Act when rules are used to deny the rights of other members, or to thwart the will of the assembly, including overemphasis on minor technicalities or dilatory tactics
- **Attend at least 50% of Senate meetings and committee meetings in a single academic year**
- Represent their constituents by soliciting their input on Senate items for discussion, and by providing to them information on Senate actions
- Possess a detailed knowledge of the Purdue University Senate Bylaws

What happens at a typical meeting?

Here is the basic structure, but the order of the elements may vary:

- Call to Order
- Approval of the Previous Minutes
- Acceptance of the Agenda
- Remarks of the Chair
- Remarks of the President
- Question Time
- Memorial Resolutions
- Résumé of Items Under Consideration
- Documents for Action
- Documents for Discussion
- Informational Reports
- New Business
- Adjournment



What should I know about remote Senate meetings?

SO glad you asked! There are a few things.

- **Please log in with your first and last name—you will not be admitted as “R’s iPhone3” or “Bob”**
- **Be ready to vote. Most voting will take place via the polling feature, but we also sometimes use Qualtrics—you may need to be able to access your email**
You may use the chat feature to send messages to Joe, but not to the full body
- **Captions will be available at every meeting**
It is okay if you need to arrive late—we appreciate a heads up, though
Keep in mind that meetings are livestreamed and watched by members of the press and faculty

Some common Parliamentary procedures include:

	Can interrupt?	Needs a second?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote needed?
Adjourn	No	Yes	Restricted	Restricted	Majority
Close debate and vote immediately (CDVI)	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Postpone to a certain time	No	Yes	Restricted	Restricted	Majority
Amend	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Main Motion	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Majority
Suspend the Rules	No	Yes	No	No	2/3
Point of Order / Inquiry / Personal Privilege	Yes	No	No	No	No

We use AIP Standard Code, not RONR (so no tabling, can postpone to a specified date/meeting)

- But we follow our Bylaws first
- Main motions usually take the form of Documents
- Amendments are debatable and amendable
- Most votes can be done by consent of the body
(although the body does not always consent)
- Points of order may interrupt
- The call to end debate is not debatable

***Parliamentary rules are to further the ability of a body
to conduct its business—not to curtail that ability***

So, what does this look like?



Senate Document 25-08
26 January 2026

To: The University Senate
From: The Educational Policy Committee
Subject: Holiday on 2 March/*Beyond the Spider-Verse* premiere
Reference: Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU)/Sony Spider-Man Universe
Disposition: University Senate for Discussion and Adoption
Rationale: The Cliff-hanger ending of *Across the Spider-Verse* created a summer and fall of agony and indeterminacy, which was worsened by the delay in its release. The Purdue community should have the option to end this uncertainty as quickly as possible by attending the premiere of the threequel
Proposal: On 2 March 2026, classes will be cancelled, and no exams will be held, in recognition of our community's mental and emotional need for resolution re: Miles Morales.

Committee Votes:

For:

Hobie Brown
Jess Drew
Margo Kess
Peni Parker
Peter B. Parker
Peter Porker
Pavitr Prabhakar
Gwen Stacy

Against:

Johnathan Ohnn
Adrian Toomes

Abstained:

Miguel O'Hara

Absent:

Jeff Morales
Miles Morales

So, what does this look like?

Presider: The Chair recognizes Senator A, Chair of the Educational Policy Committee.

Senator A: Thank you, Mr./Madam Chair. On behalf of the Educational Policy Committee, I move that the Senate should accept “Senate Document 25-08, Holiday on 2 March: *Beyond the Spider-Verse* premiere”

So, what does this look like?

- ▶ Presider: It is moved and seconded that the Senate adopt Document 25-08, “Holiday on 2 March: *Beyond the Spider-Verse* premiere.” Senator A, would you like to begin discussion of the proposal?
- ▶ Senator A: Thank you, Mr./Madam Chair. It is the position of the EPC that not having to wait to find out how the cliff- hanger from *Across the Spider-Verse* turns out will promote learning and good mental health. Please vote for this document.

So, what does this look like?

Presider: Thank you, Senator A. The Chair recognizes Senator B.

Senator B: I move to amend the motion by striking the words, “*on 2 March*” and inserting the words “*2, 3, and 4 March.*”

Presider: Is there a second?

So, what does this look like?

- Chair: It is moved and seconded to amend the motion to declare a Holiday on 2 March by striking the words, “*on 2 March*” and inserting the words “*2, 3, and 4 March.*” If adopted, the proposal will read, “On 2, 3, and 4 March, classes will be cancelled, and no exams will be held.” The matter before us is the amendment. Senator B, would you like to speak in favor of your amendment?

So, what does this look like?

<assume short debate>

Presider: Hearing no further discussion of the amendment, are there any objections to its adoption? Seeing none, the amendment is adopted. The proposal now reads, **“On 2, 3, and 4 March, classes will be cancelled, and no exams will be held.”**

So, what does this look like?

Senator C: Mr./Madam Chair, point of order.

Presider: Senator C will state their point of order.

Senator C: Mr./Madam Chair, this proposal is not in order. By long tradition, the Senate follows DC Universe, not Marvel.

Presider: This point is not well taken, Senator C. No governing documents or standing rules commit the Senate to DC Universe fandom.

So, what does this look like?

Presider: Is there further discussion on the main motion?

Presider: Hearing none, it is time to put the question. The matter before us is whether the Senate will adopt the proposal to cancel classes and exams on the dates of 2, 3, and 4 March in recognition of the community's need for resolution on the question of the fate of Miles Morales.

Secretary Camp, do you have a poll prepared?

Presider: Calls up next item.

[The next main motion proposed a general observation of the artistic achievements of the new season of *What We Do in the Shadows*. It was referred to committee for further study.]

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Any questions?

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

Please stay in touch:

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