

**MOTION: Bylaw Addition – Adjournment**  
**Referred By: Faculty Senate Executive Council**

**Motion**

The following shall be added as a new Faculty Senate Bylaw:

Every meeting of the Faculty Senate must adjourn no later than one hour and twenty minutes after its appointed starting time, unless a motion to extend the meeting time is passed by a two-thirds majority.

**Rationale**

Senators allocate a designated time in their weekly schedule for Faculty Senate meetings. By tradition, this has been 3:30-4:45 on Thursday afternoons. When a meeting extends beyond this time, some Senators must leave in order to meet their classes, to attend other meetings, or for personal reasons. This diminishes the representative nature of the Faculty Senate, especially if business is conducted *after* the designated meeting time of the Senate.

This bylaw would require that Senate meetings adjourn within an hour and twenty minutes of the appointed starting time. With the current Senate schedule, that would mean that all meetings must adjourn by 4:50. Any business not completed by that time would be held over for a subsequent meeting. In the event that an item of business is so pressing that its timely resolution is essential, the bylaw provides for a waiver of the mandatory adjournment, upon a two-thirds vote of the members. This ensures that meetings are only continued when a supramajority of Senators deems it necessary to do so.

The proposed bylaw does not reference a specific time (e.g., 4:50) , in the event that the Senate meeting time (which is not stipulated in the Constitution or Bylaws) should change.

