

Creation of Article 1, paragraph 3 using BOT resolution R03-14
(http://www.trustees.ufl.edu/resolutions/r03_14.pdf)

Constitution Committee overview, May 2009

The definition of shared governance presented for inclusion in Article 1 of the Constitution at the April 2009 Faculty Senate meeting was created using phraseology from Board of Trustees (BOT) Resolution R03-14 approved in 2003. Rather than attempt to draft new wording, the Constitution Committee made every effort to include specific language that had been previously vetted and approved by the Faculty Senate, the University Administration and the Board of Trustees. In several instances, phrases were condensed for brevity.

The first sentence delineates an actual definition of shared governance. It was taken and condensed from then President Young's vision of shared governance. Rather than outline the three levels of shared governance, determination, recommendations and consultation, we chose to use the verb 'participate' as a broad, inclusive term to indicate the manner in which faculty and administration should work together.

The second sentence outlines the purpose of shared governance. It was lifted verbatim from the April 26, 2000 definition and purpose of shared governance language that was approved by the Faculty Senate for consideration for inclusion in the University of Florida Constitution. The third sentence discusses the implementation of shared governance. It is a slight reordering of the language in the last line of the BOT resolution itself. The Constitution Committee felt that including a brief description of the purpose of shared governance and a brief overview of its implementation was just as important as the definition language itself.