

# University of Alabama

## 1. Number of students: total, undergraduate, graduate, professional

Total = 19,633

Undergraduate = 15,452

Graduate, including Law = 4,181

## 2. Number and Name of colleges within your University

12 colleges:

Arts & Sciences

Commerce & Business Administration

Community Health Sciences

Communication and Information Sciences

Continuing Studies

Education

Engineering

Graduate School

Human Environmental Science

Law

Nursing

Social Work

## 3. Number of Senators: total, by school

Total members = 52

21 = Arts & Sciences

5 = Commerce & Business Administration

2 = Community Health Sciences

3 = Communication and Information Sciences

4 = Education

6 = Engineering

2 = Human Environmental Science

2 = Law

2 = Libraries

2 = Nursing

2 = Social Work

1 = Other

## 4. Senate Officer titles & length of terms

President 1-year; Vice President 1-year; Secretary 1-year

## Number and Name of Senate Committees

Total = 7

Academic Affairs  
Faculty Life  
Financial Affairs  
Planning and Operations  
Research and Service  
Senate Operations  
Student Affairs

**6. Senate Governance:**

**a. Role of your Faculty Senate**

The purpose of the Faculty Senate is to aid The University of Alabama in making judgments on questions of policy, development, and operations and thereby to assist the University in its continuing quest for excellence. It seeks to accomplish this goal by: Facilitating and encouraging meaningful input on matters of general faculty concern. Providing a readily accessible channel of communication through which continual dialogue and exchange of information and ideas may be carried on between the Faculty and University Officials.

The Faculty Senate has the responsibility and authority to deliberate issues of general faculty concern and to communicate the results of these deliberations and its recommendations to the President of the University. The Senate receives information from the administrative officers of the University regarding pending policy decisions, or it determines through independent study that certain policy decisions appear to be appropriate; in either instance its function is to aid in the formulation or re-formulation of University policy.

The function may be served in some instances by discussion in which Senate members contribute their advice for consideration by those who are responsible for formulation and implementation of policy regarding the matter in question. In particular instances, on the other hand, the Senate may choose to make formal statements by majority vote.

The Faculty Senate is entitled to be advised of the disposition of any recommendations it makes. Some general matters appropriate for faculty deliberation include:

- I. General policies for admission of students to the University and the establishment of academic standards and requirements for graduation.
- II. Establishment of the terms and conditions of faculty service and well being.
- III. Selection of a University President or Vice-President.

The views of the Faculty Senate should be solicited and considered before an appointment is made. In the case of selection of a divisional Dean only the faculty of that particular division should be consulted.

Faculty Senate will designate one of its members to be available to the President to serve on all groups which make budgetary decisions on a campus-wide basis. Such groups include those concerned with establishing need, establishing priorities for allocations, and deciding on allocations.

**b. Reporting structure of Senate to University**

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- c. **School deans – ex-officio Senate members or members with voting status**  
None
- d. **Make up of ex-officio members (i.e. includes administrators, staff council leaders, and/or student leaders)**  
Professional Staff Committee  
Black Faculty and Staff Association  
Retired Faculty Association  
Office/Clerical/Technical Staff Committee  
Maintenance Personnel Committee  
Student Government Association  
Graduate Student Association  
Office of Alumni Affairs
- e. **With whom and with what frequency does the Senate executive committee meet with University administrators (i.e. president and/or provost)**  
The Steering Committee meets monthly with the Provost.
- f. **Degree of Senate involvement in the selection of members for standing University-wide committees**  
According to the University of Alabama Faculty Handbook, the Faculty Senate selects the faculty members that serve on the Committee on University Committee. The faculty members constitute the majority of the voting members on the Committee on University Committees, which recommends to the president the membership of most standing University-wide committees.
- g. **Degree of Senate involvement in the selection of members for University-wide ad-hoc committees**  
No formal mechanism.
- h. **Degree of Senate influence on University academic policies and procedures**  
Moral persuasion.
- i. **Describe formal structure that promotes continuity between and after officer changeover**  
No formal structure.
7. **If applicable, faculty governance within University schools or colleges:**
- a. **Type of governance bodies**  
Applicable to the College of Commerce and Business Administration
- b. **Relationship between governing bodies and Senate**  
None
- c. **Make up of governing bodies (elected or appointed members; representation determined by department size or other method)**  
For the College of Commerce and Business Administration, members of the Faculty Forum are elected by the individual departments. Representation is determined by number of faculty in each department. The Faculty Forum recommends to the Faculty on matters involving academic

policies. The Faculty of the College of Commerce and Business Administration formally votes on all new courses, programs, admission requirements, etc.

**8. Collegiate Athletics:**

**a. Role of Senate in the establishment and oversight of student-athlete policies and procedures**  
None

**b. Faculty Representative: appointed or elected, and by whom**  
Appointed by president

**c. If applicable, role of Senate standing committee on athletics**  
Not applicable

**d. Reporting structure of Department of Athletics to University**  
President of the University

**e. Who (title-wise) is the responsible person for academic affairs in the department of athletics?**  
Pivotal academic affairs issues related to student-athletes are not handled in the athletic department - they are in Academic Affairs, Admissions, the Registrars office, etc.

**f. What types of academic support are extended to student-athletes through the department of athletics**  
Tutoring system - The University has a tutoring system for athletes. Within 30 or so minutes of making a request, an athlete can obtain assistance from one of the tutors. Early semester, I had an opportunity to conduct exit interviews with two football players, including our top running back Ahmad Galloway, who had completed their NCAA eligibility. Both praised the tutoring system. In fact, the tutoring system received more praise from them than anything else at the University, including athletic facilities. Both answered that the tutors would guide them but not complete the work for them.

Athletic Department's monitoring of each athlete's class attendance and grades – If a faculty member has an athlete in a course, the faculty member is contacted at least three times each semester (by intercampus mail, e-mail, and/or phone) and is asked to report how many classes the athlete has missed and the athlete's current grade in the course.