

Report from USGC re: S-2329 Senate Role in the Policy on Policies Processes and Procedures [Due March 4, 2026]

Charge: *Study and provide recommendation to increase University Senate's role on the Policy on Policies in the matters related academic affairs, educational and research matters.*

- Over the academic sessions 2024/25 and 2025/26 the USGC has deliberated on this charge among its members and drawn upon dialogue and correspondence with Jewell Battle, Policy Manager in the University Ethics and Compliance team and her manager, Danielle Myricks, Director of Compliance (see Appendix). This included attendance, by invitation, by Jewell and Danielle for timed business at USGC meetings where members posed their questions in open session.
- A [workflow visualization model](#) was provided by Jewell Battle, upon request by USGC, to outline the process of policy formation, development, approval, update, and retirement. Any one within the Rutgers Community may request a policy change/review by completing a [form](#).
- The Senate has now secured **two Senate seats at the Policy Approval Committee (PAC)**. These are elected annually at the Senate business meeting; the current seats are occupied by Siatta Davis and Troy Shinbrot.
 - It is essential that duly elected Senate representatives to the PAC keep abreast of the work undertaken at the committee and via email correspondence. To date, there has been a less than full engagement in this work. It has now been agreed that all PAC correspondence shall be copied to the Senate Secretariat so that a level of oversight might be maintained.
- Each policy development (initiation) or review (update) is undertaken by a **Policy Development Committee (PDC)**, an ad hoc committee set up specifically to review the charge concerned with membership reflecting the subject of the charge and interested parties. The PAC Senate representatives can draw to the attention of the Executive Committee (EC) any PDC and invite the **EC to call for Senators nominations** to join the PDC.
 - It is essential that duly elected Senate representatives to the PAC keep EC abreast the work of PDCs and communicate with the EC so that is able to call for Senators to join the PDCs in a timely manner. To date, there has been a less than full engagement in this process given the lack of engagement by PAC Senate representatives. It has now been agreed that all PAC correspondence shall be copied to the Senate Secretariat so that a level of oversight might be maintained.
- The USGC remains concerned about the veto power of the Policy Owner on proposed policy updates and developed a [resolution](#) to this effect, approved by Senate at its December 2025 meeting.

Summary

- In recognition of the central role of Senate engagement in university policy processes and procedures in advancing institutional transparency and shared governance, USGC and the Executive Committee shall keep these matters under close review.