Why: To bring consistency between the Faculty Rep / Academic Staff Rep positions and the Chair / Vice Chair positions. Currently the Faculty Rep must come from the faculty and the Academic Staff Rep must come from the academic staff. The Chair and Vice Chair positions come from the University Senate and the University Academic Staff. Since all four positions serve on the Senate Executive Committee and participate in the Shared Governance Group and the Chancellor’s Cabinet, if the Chair/VC positions followed the Faculty/Academic Staff Rep positions, then it would be ensured that these important governance committees would have at least two representatives from each group.

Officers of the University Senate
1. The University Senate shall elect a Chair-elect in April of the even-numbered years. The Chair-elect will serve on the Executive Committee for one year and then become Chair of the University Senate for two years, taking office at the end of the academic year in the odd-numbered years. The Chair-elect is to be elected from among the current members of the University Senate. The Senate will elect a Vice Chair in the second April meeting of the odd-numbered years, and the Vice Chair shall take office for two years at the end of that academic year. If the Chair-elect is a University Faculty member, then the Vice chair is to be elected from among the current University Academic Staff members of the University Senate. If the Chair-elect is a University Academic Staff member, then the Vice Chair is to be elected from among the current University Faculty members of the University Senate. If the Senate term of either expires before the expiration of the term as a Senate officer, the officer becomes an ex officio (voting) member of the Senate for the remainder of the term of office. In these cases the original Senate membership will be filled following normal procedures. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair, the current Chair-elect (or if none, the Vice Chair) shall assume the office of Chair. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Vice Chair, the Senate shall elect a Vice Chair to serve the unexpired term. In the event of a vacancy in the office of Chair-elect, the Senate shall elect a Chair-elect to serve the unexpired term.

2. The Chair of the University Senate shall serve as the representative of the University Faculty and the University Academic Staff at official occasions and functions. The Chair of the University Senate will serve as the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee and will continue as a voting member for one year after the completion of the term as Senate Chair.

3. The secretary of the University Senate is a member of the regular clerical staff at the University.