

Faculty Senate becomes Academic Senate

By MARSHA MARDOCK
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The ASU Faculty Senate approved a proposal Monday to change its title to the Academic Senate.

"That recognizes that a large proportion of our senators are academic professionals and have important status at the University, but are not teachers — not faculty members," Academic Senate President Alan Matheson said.

Ralph Backhaus, senator from the botany department, said the new name is more accurate because the Senate contains more academic professionals than in the past.

"Usually they're Ph.D people who have a research position or some kind of a

technical position, but they don't do the standard things of faculty members," he said.

In other action, the Senate consolidated the University Services, Physical Plant and Computer Utilization committees into the University Services and Facilities Committee.

"Our thought is that we perhaps have too many committees at the University, and this is an effort to streamline," Matheson said.

"We think, based on our past experience, this will be a desirable change."

Backhaus, who is chairman of the University Services Committee, said the change is administrative and will not

change the way the committees function.

"Any kind of service will be dumped on the services committee, and then from there it will get farmed out to one of these other subcommittees," Backhaus said.

He added that sometimes it was difficult to determine which committee should handle certain problems.

"For example, there were some complaints about the computer terminals not working at the Hayden Library, so they came to us about it. But maybe they should have gone to the Computer Utilization Committee," Backhaus said.

"So the point is to try and meld it together so there's no crossover."

The Senate approved small changes and

revisions to the Faculty Constitution and Bylaws as part of a routine review of the documents.

"Every four years there is a mandate that we review these documents, and that's what we're doing," Matheson said. "There are lots and lots of changes, but some are simply subdivision lettering changes, name changes and so on."

Matheson said the Bylaws Review Committee has been working on the recommended changes for two years.

The Senate also called for a resolution to express its sympathy to ASU President Lattie Coor, who was not present because of his father's death.