

Draft Proposal:

Terms, Term Limits, and Composition of the UUA Bylaws Renewal Team

The UUA Bylaws Renewal Team (BRT) is charged with guiding the ongoing evaluation, revision, and renewal of the UUA Bylaws to ensure they remain clear, functional, mission-aligned, and accessible to Unitarian Universalists across the Association. The following proposal outlines the Team's composition, term structure, and term limits to support long-term sustainability, continuity of institutional knowledge, inclusive leadership, and broad participation.

Total Number of Appointed Members

The Bylaws Renewal Team will include:

- 12 appointed members

These appointed members will be selected by the UUA Board of Trustees to ensure a diverse range of identities, perspectives, experiences, and areas of expertise relevant to contemporary and emerging governance needs.

Terms and Term Limits for Appointed Members

Term Length

- Appointed members will serve 3-year terms.

Number of Terms

- Appointed members may serve up to 2 terms, for a maximum of 6 consecutive years.

This term structure provides:

- sufficient time for members to develop deep understanding and contribute meaningfully,
- regular opportunities for new voices and leadership, and
- predictable rotation to sustain continuity.

Membership Without Term Limits

To ensure institutional continuity, alignment with governance priorities, and clear access to operational knowledge, the Bylaws Renewal Team will also include the following members *without term limits*:

- At least two (2) members of the UUA Board of Trustees
 - Designated by the Board.
 - Ensures direct Board connection and alignment with governance responsibilities.
- At least one (1) Moderator, to serve as ex-officio
 - Provides continuity with the Association's governance leadership and ensures alignment with democratic processes and General Assembly needs.
- Executive Vice President (EVP)
 - Provides institutional knowledge and ensures organizational alignment with bylaws implementation.
- Governance Manager
 - Serves as a consistent operational resource, project manager, supporting process, record-keeping, and governance best practices.
- Project Oversight Team
 - Established as a group of long-serving members who may continue to serve without term limits.
 - Selected from existing or former appointed members of the BRT who have served more than 3 years.

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- May be invited to participate in team deliberations, provide historical and institutional context, mentor newer members, and support continuity across terms.
- Members of the Board who've completed their Board terms and have had experience in this process may be appointed.
- Will not count toward the total number of appointed positions but may serve in ongoing or intermittent roles as determined by the needs of the BRT.

The inclusion of these roles without term limits ensures:

- institutional memory across cycles of appointments,
- direct linkage between governance and bylaw development,
- stability in process oversight, and
- continuous availability of experienced leaders to guide and support the rotating appointed membership.

Structure and Balance

The proposed structure allows the BRT to maintain:

- balanced representation between appointed and ex officio members,
- clear channels between governance and administration, and
- consistent leadership while welcoming rotating involvement from the broader UU community.

BRT Membership Summary Table

Role	Number	Term Length	Term Limits
Appointed Members	12	3 years	Max 2 terms
Board Members	Minimum 2	Ongoing	None
Moderator(s)	Minimum 1	Ongoing	None
Executive Vice President	1	Ongoing	None
Governance Manager	1	Ongoing	None
Project Oversight Team	Minimum 3	Ongoing	None