



# The Senate of the Yale University Faculty of Arts and Sciences and School of Engineering and Applied Science (FAS-SEAS Senate)



### **FAS-SEAS** Senate



- An advisory body representing Yale FAS and SEAS faculty
- Created in 2015
- Composed of 25 Senators
  - 7 Humanities, 5 Social Sciences, 5 Sciences, 3 Engineering, 5 At-Large
  - ≥ 1 Instructional, ≥ 3 Pre-Tenure Faculty Members
- Elections held every spring
- Senators serve up to three two-year terms
- "A key structure in faculty self governance", "A forum for debate and advocacy"



### **Senate Duties**



- Attend monthly Senate meetings
- Serve on 2-3 Senate committees

Examples: Faculty Advancement, Budget, Governance, Diversity ...

- Attend / organize Senate events:
  - Advocacy, e.g., reports or resolutions on academic freedom
  - Informational, e.g., debate fossil fuel divestment
  - Social, e.g., junior faculty happy hour



# Impact of Yale Senate



### Advocated, alongside others, for significant changes:

- † Yale Child Scholarship Program, from \$16,500 to \$29,500 / yr / child
- ↑ Faculty salaries, from 92% to 97% (Social Sciences) and 97% to 99% (Humanities), as percentages of peers (and still working on reaching parity)
- † Strategic and budgetary autonomy of FAS and SEAS, toward more streamlined decision making
- ↑ Salary, professional dev, family support for Instructional Faculty
- † Institutional support for faculty child-care



## Running for Yale Senate



- Nominate self (and others) in response to Senate email query (encourage multiple nominations by colleagues!)
- Senate Nominations Cmte confirms candidates' intention to run, collects candidacy statements
- Candidates campaign among faculty colleagues
- Web-based election conducted over ~ two-week period in April/May
- Election winners announced
- Senate service begins August 15



# Why Serve in the Senate?



- "Advance the issues most important to YOU, from a highly respected Yale faculty body." Paul Van Tassel
- "Yale works best when faculty are empowered, and the Senate is our foremost mechanism of influence." - John Geanakoplos
- "If a university issue bothers you, become a Senator and try to fix it."
   Meg Urry
- "The Senate has given me a voice as an instructional faculty member." Rebecca Toseland