

**Some Basic Parliamentary Procedures for  
UNC-CH Faculty Council Meetings**  
09/13/2019

**Voting:**

Only the elected and ex officio members of Faculty Council may make, second and vote on motions. (Ex officio members include members of the Faculty Executive Committee and the Faculty Assembly Delegation.)

**Main Motion:**

The main motion is the resolution under active consideration. Each main motion must be considered separately, only one at a time. If a main motion is amended, then the amended language replaces the main motion.

**Selected Incidental and Subsidiary Motions (in Order of Precedence):**

1. *Withdraw a Motion* – This action removes another motion from further consideration (not debatable, requires a majority vote).
2. *Lay on the Table* – This action sets aside the pending question temporarily when a more urgent matter has arisen (not debatable, requires a majority vote). This motion should *not* be used to kill a measure, but only to delay action on it. At the appropriate later time, the body must vote to take up the interrupted question again.
3. *[Call] The Previous Question* – This action ends debate and brings the main motion to a vote (not debatable, requires 2/3 vote).
4. *Postpone to a Definite Time* – This action delays further consideration of a main motion until a specified later time (requires a majority vote).
5. *Amend the Amendment* – This action changes the language of an amendment under active consideration (requires a majority vote). Only one such motion can be in play at any time.
6. *Amendment* – This action changes the language of the main motion (requires a majority vote).
7. *Postpone Indefinitely* – This action delays further consideration of a main motion indefinitely (requires a majority vote). It is typically used to withdraw a motion permanently. It differs from a motion to withdraw (#1 above) in that debate is allowed. In other words, the merits of the main motion can be discussed before the vote.