

Proposal to Amend the Senate Bylaws

(Voting Units: All)

Submitted by: Ad-hoc Bylaws Committee

I. Introduction

Currently, an amendment to the University Senate Bylaws or Constitution must be enacted by an ad hoc committee formed specifically for that purpose. We propose to make the Bylaws and Constitution part of the purview of a standing committee, specifically by re-formulating the current Elections Committee to become an Elections, Bylaws, and Constitution Committee.

II. Rationale

The current procedure adds time to the process of updating the constitution and bylaws. If not enough Senators volunteer to serve on the ad hoc committee, revision to the constitution and bylaws cannot take place.

By making this part of the charge of the standing committee, we will make it easier to update the Senate Bylaws and Constitution. The Elections Committee is particularly well-placed to do this work because the Senate Assistant is an ex officio member.

III. Proposal

Current Bylaws text:

“Elections Committee:
Conducting ballot initiatives (Article VIII and Bylaws).
Conducting Senate elections (Bylaws).
Conducting University-wide elections (Bylaws).
Assisting Senate Officers in identifying nominees for Senate representatives to various University standing and ad hoc committees.
Providing a slate of nominees for Senate offices.”

“Section 8: Amendments

8.1 All proposals with respect to amending the Constitution or Bylaws will be delegated to an ad-hoc committee of the Senate. The ad hoc committee shall have a minimum membership of three, duly elected by the Senate.

8.2 The amendment to the Constitutions and Bylaws can be approved by the Senate provided it has been formally moved for adoption in a previous Senate meeting.

8.3 Approval of and amendments to the Bylaws shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the full Senate.

8.4 Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by a vote of the Senate constituency following Article X of the Senate Constitution.”

Proposed amendment text:

“Elections, **Bylaws, and Constitution** Committee:

Conducting ballot initiatives (Article VIII and Bylaws).

Conducting Senate elections (Bylaws).

Conducting University-wide elections (Bylaws).

Assisting Senate Officers in identifying nominees for Senate representatives to various University standing and ad hoc committees.

Providing a slate of nominees for Senate offices.

Taking up all proposals with respect to amending the Senate Constitution or Bylaws.

Approval of and amendments to the Bylaws shall require a two-thirds majority vote of the full Senate.

Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by a vote of the Senate constituency following Article X of the Senate Constitution.”

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