

Analysis of Changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Academic Assembly

There are approximately 30 proposed changes to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Academic Assembly. This document presents those changes in the form of an analysis that distinguishes the changes on the basis of their substantive significance.

Substantive Changes—“Major”

4. Const I.B.7. changes university ombudsperson from elected to appointed position.

[Rationale: ombudsperson requires special expertise more easily assessed and recruited by the president of the Academic Assembly than through the election process]

The faculty ombudsperson of the Academic Assembly shall be ~~elected by the Academic Assembly~~ APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC ASSEMBLY, WITH THE ADVICE OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES AND THE CONSENT OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE, from among the tenured professors, tenured associate professors, and senior lecturers for a term of two years, beginning June 1. The faculty ombudsperson may not hold any administrative appointment of department chair or higher.

16. Bylaw II.B.3.g. places the authority to appoint the chairs of Senate committees with the Senate president rather than with the committees themselves and changes the requirement for committees to meet within the first two weeks of the Fall semester to within the first four weeks of the Fall semester

[Rationale: Senate president should have the authority to appoint chairs of the committee to facilitate working relationships with the committees. Committees are often unable to meet within the first two weeks and should not be required to do so.]

~~Each senate committee, except the Executive Committee, shall elect a chair from its holdover membership at its last meeting of the academic year. The first regular meeting will be held during the first two weeks of the fall semester each year.~~ BETWEEN MAY 1 AND AUGUST 31 OF EACH ACADEMIC YEAR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE SHALL APPOINT A CHAIR FOR EACH SENATE COMMITTEE, EXCEPT THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF EACH COMMITTEE SHALL BE HELD DURING THE FIRST FOUR WEEKS OF THE FALL SEMESTER.

22. Bylaw II.B.11.a.2. redrafts and adds to the responsibilities of the Senate’s University Affairs Committee.

[Rationale: Assigns certain functions and authority for policy matters vested in the Senate by Article II.D.1 of the Constitution to the University Affairs Committee, matters currently not assigned to any Senate committee.]

- ~~a. assist public relations initiatives with respect to the legislature~~
- ~~b. support legislative coffee gatherings scheduled by the past president of the senate~~
- ~~c. offer design and review advice for campus master planning~~
- ~~d. review special uses of university facilities as described in appropriate policy manuals~~

- a. STRATEGIC PLANNING, ANNUAL BUDGET PLANNING, AND ALLOCATION OF UNIVERSITY RESOURCES;
- b. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER POLICIES, INCLUDING PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS;
- c. PARKING SERVICES, THE LIBRARIES, AND COMPUTING SERVICES;
- d. INFORMATION SERVICES, INCLUDING INFORMATION GATHERING AND DISSEMINATION ON ISSUES AFFECTING HIGHER EDUCATION, FACULTY, AND ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS;
- e. PUBLIC RELATIONS INITIATIVES, INCLUDING THOSE OF THE UNIVERSITY'S PUBLIC RELATIONS UNITS, THE ASU FOUNDATION AND THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION.

Substantive Changes—“Minor”

1. Const I.B.3.c. replaces Academic Assembly president’s ex officio membership on President’s working group with the ASU Academic Council.

[Rationale: President Crow replaced the previous Cabinet, of which the Academic Assembly president was a member, with a Working Group, which, as the name suggests, is less a policy group and more of a policy implementation group. By mutual agreement, the Academic Assembly president is dropping out of this Working Group in favor of inclusion in President Crow's ASU Academic Council, a high level faculty "think tank" of sorts to advise the president on policy initiatives.]

- c. The president of the Academic Assembly shall serve, ex officio, on the ~~university President’s Working Group~~ ASU ACADEMIC COUNCIL.

8. Const II.C.4. adds language permitting president of the Senate to establish the order of business and adds "open forum" to the list as item "i" and relettering "adjournment" to item j.

[Rationale: provides greater flexibility to the president of the Senate in establishing the order of business; formalizes "open forum" as an agenda item]

The order of business shall be ESTABLISHED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE AND SET FORTH IN AN AGENDA PRIOR TO THE MEETING. AMONG ITEMS OF BUSINESS TO BE INCLUDED ARE:

- a. call to order
- b. action on minutes
- c. Senate president or designee
- d. University president or designee
- e. other reports
- f. unfinished business
- g. new business
- h. reports from senate committees
- i. OPEN FORUM
- j. adjournment.

9. Const III.G.3. changes the requirement of mail ballots distributed to the Academic Assembly for voting on amendments to the Constitution and bylaws to electronic or printed ballots.

18. Bylaw II.B.10.b.2.d. adds "salary and compensation review policies" to policy responsibilities of the Personnel Committee; moves previous d and e items to e and f, respectively; and deletes word "and" between the last two items

[Rationale: Although enumerated as a topic of responsibility for the Senate, no Senate committee has been assigned responsibility for it. This addition does that.]

24. Bylaw III.A.5. adds the capability of and instructions for electronic balloting in Senate elections.

Prior to March 15, the chair of the Committee on Committees shall send an appropriate ELECTRONIC OR PRINTED ballot to each member of the Academic Assembly. AN ELECTRONIC BALLOT MUST HAVE THE CAPABILITY RECORDING WHO HAS VOTED IN THE ELECTION AND MUST INSURE THAT NO ONE MAY VOTE MORE THAN ONCE IN THE ELECTION. ANY PRINTED BALLOT SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH An unmarked inner envelope, in which the completed ballot is to be sealed, and a second addressed outer envelope, in which the sealed ballot is to be returned, shall be sent with each ballot. The outer envelope shall also include designated spaces for the signature and printed name of the elector.

Changes largely procedural in nature

2. Const I.B.6.a. adds the immediate past president of the Academic Assembly as a member of the Arizona Faculties Council for a one-year term.
[Rationale: formalizes membership already in existence]
3. Const I.B.6.b. adds the immediate past president of the Academic Assembly as a member of the Consultative Committee.
[Rationale: formalizes membership already in existence]
5. Const II.A.2.e. adds the immediate past president of the Academic Assembly as a member of the Senate.
[Rationale: formalizes a membership already in existence]
6. Const II.A.2.f. specifies presidents of Undergraduate Student Government and the Graduate and Professional Students Association as members of the Academic Senate.
[Rationale: language reflects change in student government from one unified body to separate undergraduate and graduate/professional associations]
7. Const II.C.1. adds language to clarify that the Senate meets during the academic year, not throughout the calendar year.
10. Bylaw I.B.1.b. modifies and clarifies the nature of the report provided to the Senate and the university president by the faculty ombudsperson (reporting a summary of the caseload rather than recommendations in individual cases and making recommendations for improvements in the system).
11. Bylaw I.B.2.b.3.a. adds the university president as one who receives a report from the Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure.

12. Bylaw I.B.2.c.3c. modifies the nature of the report provided to the Senate and the university president by the Board on Equal Opportunity to contain summaries of its actions rather its recommendations in specific individual cases.
13. Bylaw I.B.2.d.3.b modifies the nature of the report provided to the Senate and the university president by the Governance Grievance Committee to contain summaries of its actions rather its recommendations in specific individual cases.
14. Bylaw I.B.2.e.2.b modifies the nature of the report provided to the Senate and the university president by the Academic Professional Grievance Committee to contain summaries of its actions rather its recommendations in individual cases
15. Bylaw II.B.1. adds subsection c "Other committees" and subsection c.1 "University Affairs Committee".
17. Bylaw II.B.9.a.1. language reflects change in student government from one unified body to separate undergraduate and graduate/professional associations.
19. Bylaw II.B.10.c.1.b. language reflects change in student government from one unified body to separate undergraduate and graduate/professional associations.
20. Bylaw II.B.11. changes subsection title to "Other Committees of the Senate".
21. Bylaw II.B.11. adds subsection "a" "University Affairs Committee".
23. Bylaw III.A. deletes the university ombudsperson from the procedures for electing officers and members of elected committees, consistent with changes in the Constitution in Section I.B.7.
25. Bylaw III.A.6. modifies the duration of the election and eliminates a specific date for the final day of balloting.
26. Bylaw III.A.7. reduces the number of election tellers from four to three.
27. Bylaw III.A.8. reflects reduction in the number of election tellers from four to three.
28. Bylaw III.A.9. modifies wording to be consistent with changes made in subsections A.6 and A.7.
29. Bylaw III.A.10. inserts a new subsection A.10 (moving old subsection A.10 to A.11) that specifies how the electronic ballots shall be tallied
30. Bylaw III.A.11 deletes wording providing Senate Executive Committee with authority to establish electronic balloting and changes the time by which the tellers report the election results to the president of the Academic Assembly