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# Governance Commision Article VI. Nominations and Elections

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## **Article VI. Nominations and Elections to Committees**

**Section 1.** It shall be a responsibility of the University Senate to establish the specific election procedures for electing members to the University Senate and its standing committees. Any recommended changes and the specific election schedule for the next academic year should be concluded no later than the May Senate meeting.

A. The Administrative Council shall make recommendations for such changes. The current procedures shall be printed in the Campus Life Handbook.

**Section 2.** Elections to standing committees and councils shall be by petition distributed by the elections subcommittee. Faculty and administrators who are members of Senate at the time of the elections and all students are eligible to run for committee membership. Individuals may run for multiple committees but may serve on only one judicial body. With the exception of the President and the Vice-President of Academic affairs, individuals may chair only one standing committee. In the case that there is an insufficient number of candidates to fill all positions, the Administrative Council shall appoint all remaining positions.

A. The Election Subcommittee shall prepare ballots showing the names of the nominees.

B. For standing committee and council positions, each Senate member may vote for as many of the nominees as there are numbers of positions to fill on each committee. The nominees shall be ranked according to the number of votes received, and the highest ranked shall be declared elected relative to the number of vacancies on the respective committees.

C. In cases of ties, precedence in determining those elected shall be determined by Senate resolution. In each case where there is no contest by reason of the number of nominees equaling the number to be elected, the presiding officer shall declare the nominees elected without it being necessary to cast votes and count the same.

**Section 3.** The Administrative Council shall appoint persons to fill vacancies for unexpired terms on committees and councils described in these Bylaws until the succeeding July 1.

Vacancies for the remaining portion of the committee and council unexpired terms extending beyond June 30 of a given academic year shall be filled by the spring Senate elections following the nominating and voting procedures as prescribed in Article IV, Section 5, and Article VI. The Department Chair in every school shall appoint student or faculty replacements for vacancies on the Curriculum Committee. The period of time in which a person serves as a replacement for a vacancy shall not be counted in determining whether he is eligible for continuing service (in that position which is limited as to duration of service) unless the period of replacement exceeds one year. Senate, committee, or council vacancies shall exist whenever a person is removed, resigns from the governance position, changes her/his University status qualifying him for her/his position, or undertakes a leave or off-campus program without the expectation or eventuality of returning the following academic semester. Committee or council positions temporarily vacated, presumably for a semester or less, may be filled by the Administrative Council at its discretion, but the Administrative Council shall fill temporary vacancies in the

Judicial Council, Academic Council, Traffic Council, and Appeals Council no later than necessary to deal with arising cases. Regular or temporary vacancies in departmental seats of student Senators may be filled by the respective department meetings. Regular vacancies in at-large Senate seats shall be filled by selecting from the at-large election list the next eligible Senator to serve, ties being resolved by the Administrative Council. A member of the Senate, committee, or council, replaced under the condition of a temporary vacancy, shall resume office upon return to campus by appearing at a meeting of the body embracing the office and claiming her/his seat.