STUDENT GOVERNMENT

BY-LAWS

SECTION 404 NO. 03

Last Amended April 21, 2014

SUBJECT: First Year Student Senator

BY-LAW BODY

I. First Year Student Senator qualifications and procedures
   A. Qualification of candidates
      1. A first year student shall be defined as a fee-paying person who is enrolled in at least six semester hours and has not completed two academic semesters.
      B. All candidates must be in good standing with the University as defined in by-law 405.01.

II. Process
   A. Filing of a First Year Student Senator candidate
      1. To be considered for selection as a First Year Student Senator the candidate must submit and sign a statement of candidacy. The earliest the selection committee will accept a statement of candidacy is the first weekday in June; the deadline for submission of statement of candidacy is the first Friday following the second Monday of classes.
      B. Upon submission of the statement of candidacy the candidate shall be given the First Year Student Senator Application. The form of the First Year Student Senator Application shall read as follows:

      First Year Student Senator Application:
      Name:
      High School:
      High School Activities:
Significant leadership activities during High School:
Other activities during High School:
College Activities:
Leadership Activities during College:
Other activities involved in during College:
Any other significant information:
Brief statement as to why you wish to serve in the Student Senate:

C. Interview
   1. The First Year Student Senator Selection Committee shall arrange for each candidate to be interviewed by the Committee;
      a. For each interview, the Student Government Advisor, the Elections Committee Chairperson, and at least three members of the Selection Committee must be present.
   2. The First Year Student Senator Selection Committee shall prepare a standardized set of questions to be asked of each candidate;
      a. These questions shall be approved unanimously by the Selection Committee.
   3. Upon completion of each candidate interview, candidates will be scored by the voting members of the Committee. Each voting member of the Committee shall score the candidates on a scale of zero to fifty. Discussion may occur prior to scoring. Scoring shall be collected by the Chairperson and averaged.
   4. Upon completion of the interview of all candidates, the scores of all candidates shall be ranked, and the top five scores shall be the Selection Committee’s recommendation for the five First Year Student Senator position.

III. Confirmation
   A. Upon recommendation of the First Year Student Senator Selection Committee, the five candidates shall appear before the Student Senate for confirmation.
      1. Upon a majority of votes by the Student Senate, the four candidates shall be appointed. The First Year Student Senator shall serve until the first day of May following their appointment.
      2. Upon rejection of the Selection Committee’s recommendation by the Student Senate, a new First Year Student Senator Selection Committee shall be formed.
         a. The Student Government President shall appoint a new Chairperson and five Student Senators.
         b. No member who previously served on the Selection Committee shall be considered for the new Selection Committee.
      3. The new Selection Committee shall conduct new interviews in accordance with Student Government by-laws.

IV. Results
A. The First Year Student Senator Selection Committee shall submit their results no later than the first Student Senate meeting in October.
   1. Upon rejection by the Student Senate of the Selection Committee’s recommendations, a new deadline will be selected by the Student Government Vice-President and the new Selection Committee Chairperson.

V. Selection Contest
   A. Not later than five days after announcement of the results by the First Year Student Senator Selection Committee, any candidate or student may challenge the results of the Selection Committee by petitioning the All-University Judicial Board.
   B. The All-University Judicial Board shall hold an open hearing to evaluate any and all selection changes.
      1. At the hearing all parties challenging the selection results will be given an opportunity to present evidence/witnesses to support their position.
      2. The First Year Student Senator Selection Committee must be present to provide information pertaining to the selection process.
   C. The All-University Judicial Board shall have the authority to order all materials and records relating to the contested selection process brought before it. In addition, the All-University Judicial Board shall have the authority to call witnesses to testify on the integrity of the selection process.
   D. The All-University Judicial Board shall have the sole authority to determine the legality of the selection process. If the court finds sufficient cause to cast doubt on the selection process, the All-University Judicial Board shall call for a new Selection Committee to be formed and new interviews to be conducted.
   E. The All-University Judicial Board shall be the final authority in all First Year Student Senator selection process matters and shall have the authority to determine the methods of its proceedings.

VI. Vacancies
   A. Any unfilled position that is vacated by resignation or removal shall be filled by the next available First Year Student Senator candidate who scored highest among the other candidates, pending approval of the Student Senate.
      1. If any of the First Year Student Senator positions is vacant and there are no candidates to fill the position, it shall remain empty until it is filled by the procedure defined in by-law 405.02.