

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
(Final; Action)

SP.10.10 Changes in the *Senate Election Rules* for the Student Electorate

BACKGROUND

In 2007-08, at the time that USSP reviewed a request from the Illinois Student Senate (ISS) regarding requirements for attendance at Senate and ISS meetings, USSP and ISS recognized that a complete review of the Senate Election Rules for Students was overdue. Meanwhile, in developing the changes to the bylaws and election rules necessary to accommodate the inclusion of the Other Academic Staff electorate, the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedure reviewed the *Senate Election Rules* for the Faculty and Student electorates as well. This document recommends the necessary changes to the *Senate Election Rules* for Students necessary to update these procedures to reflect current practice and current organizations.

The proposed changes *remove* items previously labeled Appendices A-E. For reference, these appendices can be found at <http://www.senate.illinois.edu/rulesstd.asp>. These appendices do not reflect current accepted practice. Appendices A-E, as revised in 1998, heavily cited the *Student Election Commission General Elections Packet*. The Student Election Commission frequently revises the *Elections Packet* and is free to do so, provided it does not conflict with the requirements laid out in the *Senate Election Rules* or the *Illinois Student Senate Constitution*.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Senate Election Rules*. The substantive changes were endorsed by the Illinois Student Senate on April 7, 2010. Text to be deleted is in [square brackets] and text to be added is underlined. Note that where the *Constitution* is quoted, it is the text as amended on November 9, 2009.

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE *Senate Election Rules*

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[Election Rules for Student Senators] Senate Election Rules for the Student Electorate

[Last Revised: April 27, 1998]

1. **Short Title; Purpose**

7 1.1 *Short Title*. These Rules will be referred to as the Senate Election Rules for the Student
8 Electorate.

9 1.2 *Purpose*. The purpose of these Election Rules is to establish orderly procedures and rules for the
10 election of senators from the student electorate to the Senate of the Urbana-Champaign campus.

11 2. College Committees

12 2.1 *Creation*. College elections and credentials committees are created pursuant to paragraph 2, Part
13 C, of the Senate Bylaws. Under the Bylaws, these committees may perform whatever duties are
14 delegated to them by the [SECC] USSP Senate Committee on
15 University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP).

16 2.2 *Delegation of Power*. The [SECC] USSP will delegate various duties to the college committees
17 by way of rules and guidelines it adopts and publishes. These Rules and Guidelines may be added to,
18 amended, or repealed at any time by the [Committee] USSP.

19 2.3 *Specific Powers*. The [SECC] USSP hereby delegates to the college committees the following
20 duties, subject to any limitations set forth in rules and guidelines of the [SECC] USSP.

21 (a.) *Apportionment Plan*. In colleges entitled to more than one student senator, the college
22 committee will prepare an apportionment plan for submission to the [SECC] USSP, which in
23 cooperation with the Clerk of the Senate, will establish voting units from which student
24 representatives will be elected.

25 (b.) *Conducting Elections*. In the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Veterinary Medicine, the
26 college committee will conduct nomination and election procedures under the supervision of
27 the Clerk of the Senate. In all other colleges, the college committee will conduct nomination
28 and election procedures under the supervision of the Clerk of the Senate unless the Senate has
29 authorized the Student Elections Commission (SEC) [of the Student Government Association
30 (SGA)] established by the Illinois Student Senate Constitution to conduct student Senate
31 elections. (See also Rule 4.2.)

32 (c.) *Priority of Existing Plan; Amendment*. Where an apportionment plan establishing student
33 election units previously has been put into effect, that plan shall remain in effect until
34 otherwise determined by the [SECC] USSP in cooperation with the Clerk of the Senate. The
35 procedures for amending an apportionment plan shall be the same as those employed in
36 adopting a new plan.

37 2.4 *Restriction of Power*. All activities of the [SECC] USSP and of the college committees shall
38 conform to the relevant provisions of the *Constitution* and *Bylaws* adopted by the Senate.

39 2.5 *Resolution of Conflicts*. Any conflicts concerning election rules and procedures which may arise
40 whenever the SEC is authorized to conduct student Senate elections shall be resolved by joint
41 consultation between the SEC and the [SECC] USSP no later than November 30 preceding the
42 elections.

43 3. Election Units; Apportionment

44 3.1 *Data*. All student apportionment plans and amendments thereto shall be based upon and derived
45 from student data supplied to each college committee by [SECC] USSP.

46 3.2 *Student Evaluation of Plans*. No college student apportionment plan or amendments thereto
47 should be submitted until it has been considered by an organization or organizations recognized by
48 the college as representative of the student body. Ordinarily, this should include the Illinois Student
49 Senate.

50 3.3 *Open Hearings*. No student apportionment plan or amendments thereto should be submitted until
51 the college committee has held open hearings where students may express their views.

52 3.4 *Report of Alternative Plan*. Each apportionment plan or amendments thereto should be
53 accompanied by a report of the college committee explaining how and why the plan or amendments
54 were adopted, and what alternatives were rejected. The report should include copies of any substantial
55 objections to the plan or amendments that were received by the committee.

56 3.5 *Copies to Senate Clerk*. The report and plan or amendments must be sent to the Senate Clerk for
57 submission to [SECC] USSP.

58 3.6 *Senators per College*. The [SECC] USSP will determine the number of student senators to be
59 apportioned to each college based on the total number of student senators (as near fifty as
60 practicable).

61 3.7 *Voting Units*. Student voting units shall be determined in the following manner:

62 (a.) *Unit Structure*. In each college entitled to more than one student representative, the
63 student body should be divided into as many voting units as there are student representatives
64 to be elected. One senator will then be elected by each voting unit. If it is impossible to use
65 single-representative units and at the same time meet other requirements set forth in these
66 Rules in Sections 3.7(b,c,d,e), a college may be divided into voting units which elect more
67 than one senator, or all senators may be elected from the college at large.

68 (b.) *Size Limitation*. Not more than five senators may be elected from one voting unit unless
69 that unit is comprised of students from one college which elects all its senators at-large. If a
70 plan or amendment for multi-representative units or at-large election is submitted by any
71 college committee, the committee must also submit the best possible single-representative
72 unit plan and explain why it was rejected.

73 (c.) *Departments Remain Intact*. Each voting unit must be made up of one or more full
74 departments. Departments may not be split.

75 (d.) *Related Subject-Matter Guideline*. Each voting unit should consist of departments in
76 areas of related subject matter.

77 (e.) *Equal Size College Units*. Each single-representative unit within a college should have a
78 student population substantially equal to other single-representative units. Where multi-
79 representatives are used, the ratio of population to representatives should be substantially
80 equal for all units. Departure from equality of voting power for each student should be
81 avoided.

82 3.8 *Tenth-Day Figures*. Student senator apportionment will be based on the most recent tenth-day
83 enrollment figures of college membership.

84 3.9 *Absentees Counted*. Members of the student electorate absent from campus will be included in the
85 statistics used to apportion seats.

86 4. **Time and Duration of Elections**

87 4.1 *Duration of Elections*. The elections shall be held on [at least] two consecutive weekdays.

88 4.2 *Time of Elections*. Elections for the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Veterinary Medicine shall be
89 conducted by those colleges at such times as shall be specified by the [SECC] USSP. The election of
90 all other student senators shall be held at such times as shall be specified by the [SECC] USSP unless
91 the Senate authorizes the Student Elections Commission (SEC) [of the Student Government
92 Association (SGA)] established by the Illinois Student Senate Constitution to conduct the election of
93 student senators concurrently with the other student elections the SEC conducts. Such authorization,
94 which does not extend to the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Veterinary Medicine, must be given by
95 the Senate no later than the last regularly scheduled meeting of the spring semester for the following
96 year's elections. Once given, this authorization will remain in force unless it is rescinded by Senate;
97 such action must take place no later than the last regularly scheduled meeting of the spring semester
98 to be effective for the following year's elections. If the SEC is authorized to conduct student Senate
99 elections and agrees to do so, the election shall be held in the week containing the first Monday in
100 March. If this week contains a general campus holiday, the election shall be held in the preceding
101 week. If the preceding week also contains a general UIUC holiday, the election shall be held in the
102 week containing the second Monday in March. [(re Article 5, Section 1. a., SGA Bylaws.)]

103 4.3 *Senate Approval of Changes in SEC Election Calendar*. If for any reason SEC-conducted Senate
104 elections cannot be held in accordance with the above schedule, the SEC will notify the Senate no
105 later than September 30 prior to the scheduled election, at which time the Senate shall determine
106 whether to authorize the SEC to proceed with the conduct of said election or to delegate the
107 responsibility to the college elections committees.

108 5. **Electorate Qualifications**

109 5.1 *General Qualifications*. The Constitution, Article IV, Section 1, provides:

110 The student electorate shall consist of all persons actively pursuing a degree on this campus
111 who meet the eligibility requirements for voting and who are not members of the faculty
112 electorate. Eligibility for voting shall require that the student be:

- 113 a. In residence,
- 114 b. A candidate for a degree.

115 In addition, members of the student electorate eligible for nomination and election to the
116 Senate shall be:

- 117 c. Undergraduate students, taking a minimum of 12 hours for credit; or
- 118 d. Professional students, taking a minimum of 8 hours for credit; or
- 119 e. Graduate students, taking a minimum of 8 hours for credit, or registered for thesis
120 credit, or taking fewer than 8 hours but more than 0 hours for credit and having at least a
121 one-half time appointment to the campus academic staff.

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123 *5.2 Professional Students.* Graduate students in Law and Veterinary Medicine will vote with the
124 electorate in the Graduate College system, rather than with their affiliated colleges. All other eligible
125 professional students in Law and Veterinary Medicine vote within their affiliated colleges.

126 *5.3 Undergraduate and Graduate Students.* Undergraduate students who are eligible to vote, as
127 defined in Section 5.1, may vote for all Senate student elections within their respective colleges.
128 Graduate students, including graduate professional students, may vote only for graduate student
129 candidates.

130 *5.4 College of Medicine Student Electorate.* The student electorate of the College of Medicine at
131 Urbana-Champaign shall be entitled to elect voting members of the Senate. The provisions of these
132 Rules shall apply to these members.

133 6. Candidate Qualifications

134 *6.1 General Qualifications.* A student candidate must satisfy the requirements of membership in the
135 student electorate and intend to remain a student in residence during [his/her] their expected term of
136 office.

137 *6.2 Satisfactory Progress.* At the time of nomination and election a student candidate must be making
138 satisfactory progress toward a degree as certified by [his/her] their academic dean. "Satisfactory
139 progress" means that the candidate is not on academic probation or drop status, and is fulfilling the
140 requirements of [the] a degree program within the voting unit. No additional or different standard
141 may be employed.

142 *6.3 Correction of Certification.* A college committee can correct mistakes made by a dean in the
143 certification process.

144 *6.4 Current Membership in Unit.* [No person may run for election from a unit in which he/she is not a
145 member at the time of the election.] A student candidate must be a member of the unit in which the
146 student is running for election and making satisfactory progress toward a degree at the time of the
147 election. An undergraduate student who is a member of more than one unit may choose the unit in
148 which [he/she] the student will run for election provided [he/she] the student fulfills the requirements
149 defined under Section 5.3 and 6.2.

150 *6.5 Single-Seat Limitation.* No person can be a candidate for more than one Senate seat. This rule
151 specifically prohibits a candidate from running simultaneously for a district seat and an at-large seat.

152 *6.6 Terms.* The terms of student senators shall be one year, with a maximum of six consecutive terms.
153 Student terms begin on the first day of classes of the fall semester following their election. The
154 election of a student senator in a regular election constitutes a full term regardless of whether or not
155 [he/she] the student senator resigns. A replacement senator elected prior to January 1 shall be
156 considered to have served a full term.

157 7. Notice of Election; Publicity

158 *7.1 Election notice.* [Mail. Each college elections and credentials committee should distribute by mail
159 information concerning elections to its student electorate. Such information will include the
160 departmental composition of voting units, specify the student's voting unit, list the candidates for each
161 unit, dates of elections, location of polling places, and hours during which polls will be open.] Each

college's elections and credentials committee, or the SEC if authorized to conduct student elections, shall distribute information concerning the nomination of students for student elections and information regarding the dates of election.

[7.2 *College Newsletter*. Election information should be included in the college newsletter.]

7.2 Method of Notice. The recommended method of informing persons about the elections is a mailing via hard copy or electronic means to all constituent members of the respective voting units within the college.

[7.3 *Posted Notices*. Election information should be posted to provide the most visibility, e.g., classrooms, bulletin boards, libraries, Illiosks, and other suitable places.]

7. [4]3 *Announcements*. Announcements may not be made in college classes.

[7.5 *Campaign Statements Distribution*. At its discretion, any college elections and credentials committee may produce and distribute student campaign statements provided that equal treatment is given to each candidate within the college. No other campus office shall mail student campaign literature.]

7. [6]4 *Campaign Display Materials*. Campaign signs may be displayed only on university- or college-approved bulletin boards or Illiosks with correct authorization, and in private establishments with consent of the owner. All campaign material within 50 feet of a public access University-owned computer on an election day must be removed when the polling begins [(re Section VIII, Part D. 3., SEC General Elections Packet)]. Distribution and display of campaign materials must be in accordance with rules and policies specified [in the SEC General Elections Packet (re Section VIII, Parts 3. and 5., SEC General Elections Packet).] by the SEC in their General Elections Packet, subject to review by USSP.

7.5 Methods of Voting. The Notice of Election (Section 7), Publicity (Section 7), Nomination Procedures (Section 8) and Election Procedures (Section 9-14) are detailed as indicated. These activities can be carried out either via hardcopy (requiring mail or hand delivery to the polling place as described below) or via electronic means. Whichever method is used, there must be: a) a reasonable time frame observed for the vote to occur, b) a confidentiality about voting and authentication, c) a stated process by which ties are resolved, and d) a reasonable retention period for the relevant records.

8. Nomination Procedures

8.1 *Written Nomination Statement*. A student wishing to be a candidate must submit a written nomination statement. The nomination statement form will be provided by the [Senate Office] college elections and credentials committee, or the SEC if authorized to conduct student elections. For any election that is conducted by the college elections and credentials committees, the form will be available to students at their college offices and students are to return the completed form to the Dean for certification of eligibility. If the SEC is conducting the election, the student nomination form for undergraduate and graduate students will be included in the SEC General Elections Packet and the completed form is to be turned in according to instructions included in the packet.

8.2 *Intent to Remain a Student*. When submitting a nomination statement to the college elections committee, the student must affirm in writing that [he/she] the student expects to remain a student in residence during the term of office for which election is sought.

8.3 *Dean's Certificate of Progress*. In order to comply with Section 6.2 of these Rules, a nomination statement must include certification by the dean that the candidate is making satisfactory progress toward the degree. The Dean must also verify and indicate on the nominating form the voting unit to which the candidate belongs.

8.4 *Determination of Eligibility*. The elections committee of each college shall determine whether its student candidates are eligible for election.

8.5 *Notice*. For any election that is conducted by a college elections and credentials committee, the college elections committee shall notify its student nominees of their eligibility, and shall also forward a copy of each qualified student's nominating statement to the Senate Clerk. If the SEC has been authorized to conduct student Senate elections, it shall forward each undergraduate and graduate candidate's petition to the appropriate dean for certification of eligibility. Upon confirmation of each candidate's eligibility, the SEC shall also forward a copy of the certified candidate petitions to the

215 Senate Office. Regardless of who conducts the elections, the Senate Office and college offices must
216 keep a copy of each eligible candidate's petition until election results are officially certified.

217 9. Ballots

218 9.1 *Responsibility for Preparation.* Each college elections committee is responsible for preparing
219 ballots for its own student voting units unless it has been notified in writing by the Clerk of the Senate
220 that the Senate has delegated authority to the SEC to conduct student Senate elections.

221 9.2 *Model Ballot.* If elections are to be conducted by the college elections committees, the ballots
222 shall conform as nearly as possible to the model ballot prepared by the [SECC] USSP.

223 9.3 *Contents.* The ballot shall contain the following:

224 (a.) name of the college;

225 (b.) designation of the election unit and number of senators to be elected;

226 (c.) the names of the nominees by unit; and

227 (d.) directions on proper voting procedures.

228 In the designation of a candidate's name on the ballot, the candidate's surname shall be used. In
229 addition, any combination of the following designations may be used at the discretion of the
230 candidate as space dictates: the candidate's given name, the candidate's initial(s), and/or a nickname
231 by which the candidate is commonly known. No designation may be used in addition to the
232 candidate's surname which suggests or implies possession of a degree or title. [(re Article 5, Section
233 4, Parts A. 1.-3. and B., SGA Bylaws.)]

234 9.4 *Random Order of Names.* The ballot order of names for each Senate position within each unit
235 shall [be determined by drawing one name at random and listing the rest of the names in subsequent
236 alphabetical order (re Article 5., Section 4., SGA Bylaws)] be random.

237 [9.5 *Slate Affiliation.* Upon request by a candidate, slate affiliation must be listed on the ballot after
238 the candidate's name (re Article 5, Section 4., Part A.4., SGA Bylaws). Slates will not be listed unless
239 they qualify as such under provisions of Section VI. of the SEC General Elections Packet and Article
240 5., Section 7, of the SGA Bylaws (see Appendix A).]

241 9. [6]5 *Proofing the Election Ballot.* Candidates shall have the opportunity to proof the election
242 ballot, or a facsimile thereof, on which their names appear, at least 48 hours before [its printing. (re
243 Article 5., Section 4., Part D., SGA Bylaws)] the election.

244 10. Conducting the Voting

245 10.1 *Voter Identification.* Each voter will be required to provide identification deemed appropriate by
246 the body conducting the elections. Voting may be conducted by secure electronic ballot.

247 10.2 *Voter's Signature.* If the election is being conducted [by the college elections committee] by
248 written ballot, each voter will sign [his/her] their name on a numbered line on a signature sheet. The
249 election judge will enter that number opposite the voter's name on the list of eligible voters. If the
250 election is being conducted using an electronic voting system, the college elections committee or the
251 SEC if conducting the election shall have a way to ensure only those eligible to vote can participate
252 and that those eligible to vote can vote only once. Confidentiality of all votes must be ensured at all
253 times. If the voting procedure links any identification with votes cast, this information must not be
254 referenced during the tallying or reporting of the votes nor saved with the election results.

255 10.3 *Initialing of Ballot.* If the election is being conducted by [the college elections committee]
256 written ballot, each ballot shall be initialed on the back in the upper left-hand corner by an election
257 official immediately before the ballot is given to a voter.

258 10.4 *Campaigning at the Polls.* No campaigning (solicitation of voters, posters, etc.) is allowed
259 within fifty feet of a public access University-owned computer during the hours of voting. College
260 committees may adopt additional reasonable restrictions on campaigning in the vicinity of public
261 access University-owned computers if they are conducting the elections. If the SEC is conducting the
262 elections, campaigning is expressly prohibited at the following locations on election days: (a.) on the
263 first floor of the Illini Union, in the Southwest and Southeast foyers of the Illini Union, or in Illini
264 Union elevators; (b.) inside the University undergraduate library tunnel, on its stairways or entrances
265 or within fifty (50) feet of them; and (c.) on any public access University-owned computer or within
266 fifty (50) feet of them. [(re Section VIII. D., SEC General Elections Packet).]

267 11. Polling Places

268 11.1 *Responsibility*. Each college elections committee is responsible for establishing and operating
269 the number of polling places it deems necessary for its electorate unless the SEC is conducting the
270 elections. Polling sites for student Senate elections which are conducted by the SEC shall be
271 determined by the SEC. If hardcopy methods are used, then Sections 11.2-11.4, shall be followed.

272 11.2 *Hours*. Each polling place must be open and operating between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00
273 p.m. on election days if the college elections committees are conducting the elections. Poll hours for
274 student Senate elections which are conducted by the SEC shall be established by the SEC.

275 11.3 *Notice of Location*. During the election period the location of polls and their hours must be
276 posted by the committee in the office of the college.

277 11.4 *Equipment*. Ballot boxes, and other supplies (such as tables and chairs) for elections conducted
278 by the college elections committees may be obtained from the [Physical Plant] campus facilities and
279 services. For any Senate student election to be conducted by the SEC, the SEC shall be responsible
280 for obtaining equipment it needs to conduct elections in a timely and efficient manner.

281 11.5 *Electronic voting*. If the election is being conducted using an electronic voting system, the
282 polling locations shall include any public access University-owned computer for the purposes of
283 Section 10.4. Members of the campus community shall not operate ad hoc polling locations. The
284 college elections committee, or the SEC if conducting elections, may enforce further restrictions for
285 non-University-owned computers operating as ad hoc polling locations.

286 [12. Election Supervision

287 12.1 *Election Judge*. To the extent possible, each public access University-owned computer shall be
288 under the supervision of a judge or judges certified by the body conducting the election. No candidate
289 for office may be a judge. Any member of the electorate may serve as a poll watcher.]

290 [13.] 12. Election Expenses

291 [13]12.1 *Signed Statement*.

292 (a.) For elections conducted by college elections committees, on or before the last day of the
293 election, each student candidate shall file a signed statement of election expenses with the
294 elections committee of [his/her] their college. The statement shall include all expenditures
295 known to have been made by any person for or on behalf of the student's candidacy. The
296 college has no obligation to reimburse students for their election expenses; the purpose of
297 requiring filed statements is solely to monitor any limitation (see Section [13]12.2) set by the
298 college committee.

299 (b.) For elections conducted by the SEC. All candidates for Senate student positions shall
300 adhere to the provisions [of Section VI., Parts E. (Spending Limits and Guidelines) and F.
301 (Financial Disclosure)] of the SEC General Elections Packet, [and Article 5., Sections 10 and
302 11, of the SGA Bylaws. (See Appendix B.)]

303 [13]12.2 *Limitation*. Each college elections committee may establish limits on the amount expended
304 by or on behalf of any student candidate under its jurisdiction if it is conducting the election. [The
305 limits described above in Section 13.1 (b.) shall take precedence over any college limitation for all
306 Senate student elections that are conducted by the SEC.]

307 [14.] 13. Requirements for Election

308 [14]13.1 *Automatic Election*. If for elections conducted by college elections and credentials
309 committees the number of students nominated and willing to serve is exactly equal to the number of
310 senators to be elected, no election need be held; those nominated and willing to serve may be declared
311 elected automatically.

312 [14]13.2 *Plurality Election*. Seats available in each voting unit will be filled as follows: the candidate
313 receiving the highest number of votes will be elected first, the candidate receiving the second highest
314 number elected second, and so on, until all available seats are filled.

315 [14]13.3 *Ties in Election*. If a tie exists among the candidates eligible for the last seat(s) open in a
316 voting unit, the body conducting the election shall determine the winner by drawing lots.

317 [15.] 14. Returns; Counting; Certification

318 [15] 14.1 *Removal of Ballots*. If hardcopy methods are used, b[B]allots shall be removed only by
319 designated officials. These officials are responsible for protecting the ballots from loss or tampering
320 until the election results are officially certified. If electronic means are used, the report of the election
321 shall be obtained at the end of the voting period and the file stored in a safe place.

322 [15] 14.2 *Counting*. The body conducting the election shall provide for counting the ballots
323 immediately after the polls close. No candidate shall participate in the counting process. Any member
324 of the electorate may be present during the counting process, within reasonable limits of space. If
325 ballots are counted manually, the results of the count shall be entered on a tally sheet signed by those
326 who counted the ballots. If electronic means are used, there shall be a process by which the results
327 can be certified if challenged.

328 [15] 14.3 *Write-in Ballots*. No write-in ballots submitted in an election conducted by the SEC are to
329 be counted unless the candidate(s) in question have fully complied with provisions of [Section X of]
330 the SEC General Elections Packet [(see Appendix C)] for write-in candidates. [Write-in ballots are
331 not permitted in elections conducted by college elections and credentials committees.]

332 [15] 14.4 *Doubtful Ballots*. Intention of the voter should be the only standard for interpreting doubtful
333 ballots. If the intention can be determined, the ballot should be counted in accordance with the intent.
334 If the intention cannot be determined (e.g., three candidates marked for only two seats), then the
335 ballot shall not be counted.

336 [15] 14.5 *Certification by College Committee*. If the elections have been conducted by the college
337 elections committees using hardcopy methods, the tally sheet and all ballots shall be delivered or
338 made available immediately to the appropriate college committee. If using electronic methods, the
339 results sheet shall be delivered to the appropriate college committee by an appropriate method,
340 including electronic means. The college committee, after satisfying itself that the vote shown on the
341 tally sheet is correct, shall so certify on forms provided by the Senate Office and deliver said
342 certification immediately to the Senate Office. The college committee shall arrange for the
343 preservation of all ballots, [and] tally sheets, or electronic files for that academic year.

344 [15] 14.6 *Certification by the SEC*. If the elections have been conducted by the SEC, the SEC shall
345 certify, on forms provided by the Senate Office, the results of each election as soon as those results
346 are certified as official. The SEC shall deliver the completed forms to the Senate Office at or before
347 the time results are made public. The SEC shall arrange for the preservation of all ballots, tally sheets,
348 or electronic files for that academic year.

349 [15] 14.7 *Certification by Senate Committee*. The [SECC] USSP shall certify election results to the
350 Senate [at the first meeting following elections] at the organizational meeting of the newly elected
351 senate. These results shall be entered in the minutes of that meeting. The [SECC] USSP may delay
352 certification of candidates whose elections are in doubt or may certify the election of such candidates
353 upon appropriate conditions.

354 [15] 14.8 *Formal Reports*. All formal reports to the [SECC] USSP should be addressed to the Senate
355 Clerk, [180 Henry Administration Building.]

356 [16.] 15. Grievances and Appeals

357 [16] 15.1 *College Committee Jurisdiction*. [Unless otherwise provided by the SECC, t] The college
358 election committees shall have original jurisdiction over the following unless further delegated to the
359 SEC if it is authorized to conduct student elections:

- 360 (a.) adding names of qualified voters to the voting lists;
- 361 (b.) determination of a student's satisfactory progress toward a degree;
- 362 (c.) determination of college membership for electoral purposes;
- 363 (d.) certification of successful election of candidates; and
- 364 (e.) any other matters arising within their colleges.

365 [16] 15.2 *Appeal to the [Senate Elections and Credentials Committee (SECC)] University Statutes*
366 and Senate Procedure Committee (USSP). Any aggrieved person may appeal to the [SECC] USSP a

367 decision of a college committee; actions and decisions of the [SECC] USSP may be appealed to the
368 Senate by any senator.

369 [16] 15.3 Procedure for Unlisted Persons Claiming Electorate Status. If a student whose name does
370 not appear on the official listing desires to vote and claims the right to do so, the validity of that claim
371 shall be decided by the chair (or designee) of the appropriate college committee before the end of the
372 voting period. If the claim cannot be so decided, the student shall be provided a ballot after signing a
373 statement that [he/she] the student is a qualified member of the electorate in the particular voting unit
374 involved. The signed statement and vote shall be kept separate and shall not be counted with the other
375 votes; both shall be delivered to the appropriate college committee along with the other ballots and
376 tally sheets. The college committee will decide whether the person is or is not entitled to vote. If the
377 voter is so entitled, the chair of the committee will add that vote to the tally sheet.

378 [16] 15.4 Grievances with the SEC. For any election conducted by the SEC, students may file
379 complaints in accordance with procedures specified in [Section XI of] the SEC General Elections
380 Packet [(see Appendix D).]

381 [17.] 16. Resignations and Vacancies

382 [17] 16.1 No Nominations. If no one is [nominated for] elected to a Senate seat from a voting unit
383 during the general election, then the college in which that voting unit resides shall have the option of
384 electing an eligible member of the student electorate to that seat in the fall. Election procedures shall
385 be developed by each college elections and credentials committee and shall be subject to approval by
386 the [SECC] USSP.

387 [17] 16.2 Disqualification from Electorate. If a senator fails to satisfy the requirements for
388 membership in the electorate during [his/her] their term of office, the Senate shall determine whether
389 the senator may remain seated.

390 [17] 16.3 Vacancies. A vacant student Senate seat may be filled in either of the following ways:

391 (a.) By a special election (which shall, as far as possible, comply with the Rules applicable to
392 regular elections); or

393 (b.) By appointment by the college committee, confirmed by the SECC. The college
394 committee may base its appointment upon the recommendation of the withdrawing student
395 senator (if a recommendation is made). If, however, the college committee does not wish to
396 base its appointment on the student recommendation, it will give due regard to votes received
397 by candidates in the prior regular election, to slates and their platforms, and to any other
398 relevant information.

399 (c.) If a student Senate seat is vacant at the time of, or any time after, the election of a senator
400 for the following year, the following procedure will be used:

401 (1.) The seat is to be filled by the senator who was elected for the upcoming year. In
402 a multi-seat district, the seat will be offered first to the senator receiving the highest
403 number of votes in that district. If that person declines, the seat is offered to each
404 winner in that district, in order of the number of votes received.

405 (2.) If all newly elected senators decline, or if there is only one seat in the district and the sole
406 new senator declines, then the college elections committee shall appoint a person to fill the
407 vacant seat as quickly and fairly as possible.]

408 (b.) By appointment by the Illinois Student Senate.

409 (c.) In selecting the replacement for an undergraduate student Senator, priority should be
410 given, in descending order, to:

411 (i) The first runner-up (if any) in the appropriate election unit;

412 (ii) The successive runners-up (if any) in the appropriate election unit; and

413 (iii) candidate(s) selected in a search conducted by the Illinois Student Senate and
414 its Internal Vice-President in consultation with the Clerk of the Senate.

415 (d.) In selecting the replacement for a graduate or professional student Senator, priority
416 should be given, in descending order, to:

417 (i) The first balloted runner-up (if any) in the appropriate election unit;

418 (ii) The successive balloted runners-up (if any) in the appropriate election unit;

419 and

420 (iii) candidate(s) selected in a search conducted by the chair of the Illinois
421 Student Senate's Committee on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs and
422 the Illinois Student Senate's Vice President Internal in consultation with the
423 Clerk of the Senate at the Urbana-Champaign Campus.
424 [17.4] 16.4 Change of Unit. If a senator changes voting units after the election, [he/she] the senator
425 will continue to represent the original unit.
426 [17.5] 16.5 Recall of a Senator. A student senator can be recalled by a vote of two-thirds of those
427 voting in the recall election.

428 [APPENDIX A]¹
429 [APPENDIX B]
430 [APPENDIX C]
431 [APPENDIX D]
432 [APPENDIX E]

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

William Maher, Chair
H. George Friedman
Karen Hogenboom
Christopher Kunzweiler
Melissa Madsen
Anna-Maria Marshall
Alec Meyerholz
Ann Reisner
Kristine Campbell, *Observer*
Robert C. Damrau, *Ex officio*
Sandy Jones, *Ex officio (designee)*

¹ Removed appendices can be found at <http://www.senate.illinois.edu/rulesstd.asp>