

APPROVED BY SENATE
10/19/2015

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

University Statutes and Senate Procedures
(Final; Action)

SP.16.03 Revisions to the *Election Rules for the Student Electorate*

BACKGROUND

In October 2014, the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) received an inquiry from the Campus Student Election Commission (CSEC) regarding ambiguity in the language for electing student senators. At present, students may only run for senate seats allocated to the election unit containing their degree program, but may vote in the elections for any seat allocated to their college. The CSEC was concerned that this long running practice may conflict with the election rules' stipulation that student senators be elected "by each voting unit".

In September 2015, the Illinois Student Senate was presented with a choice of alternative texts to resolve the ambiguity and recommended the proposed revision below by a vote of 21 to 8. USSP concurs with this recommendation.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Election Rules for the Student Electorate*. Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is indicated by ~~strikeout~~ (e.g., ~~sample text for deletion~~).

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE *ELECTION RULES FOR THE STUDENT ELECTORATE*

- 1 **3. Election Units; Apportionment**
2 3.7. *Voting Units*. Student voting units shall be determined in the following manner:
3 a) *Unit Structure*. In each college entitled to more than one student representative, the student body should
4 be divided into as many voting units as there are student representatives to be elected. One senator will
5 then be elected ~~by~~ from each voting unit. If it is impossible to use single-representative units and at the
6 same time meet other requirements set forth in these Rules in Sections 3.7 (b,c,d,e), a college may be
7 divided into voting units which elect more than one senator, or all senators may be elected from the college
8 at large.
9
- 10 **5. Electorate Qualifications**
11 5.3. *Undergraduate and Graduate Students*. Undergraduate students who are eligible to vote, as defined in
12 Section 5.1, may vote for candidates in all Senate student elections within their respective colleges.
13 Graduate students, including graduate professional students, may vote only for graduate student
14 candidates.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
William Maher, Chair
H. George Friedman
Shawn Gordon
Wendy Harris
Calvin Lear
Anna-Maria Marshall
Mark Roszkowski
Gisela Sin
Sandy Jones, *Ex officio* (designee)
Jenny Roether, *Ex officio*
Dedra Williams, *Observer*