

Background: During the most recent election for Senate Council Chair, the SREC and others realized that the Senate Rules do not provide enough clarity about how those elections should occur, particularly when there are more than two candidates.

Proposal: The election process and the person presiding over the election should be impartial and fair. To that end, the SREC proposes that the SREC chair or that person's designee preside over this election. This is the current practice for several other Senate elections.

The SREC also proposes to clarify that (1) the Senate Council must elect the Chair by a simple majority, (2) if the Senate Council fails to elect a Chair and the Senate has to vote, the Senate will elect the Chair by a plurality, (3) if the Senate's vote is required, it should occur at the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting, and (4) if there is a tie at a Senate vote, the tie shall be broken by random draw.

Add language in blue/underline.

Remove language in ~~red, strike-through~~.

Move language in *green/italics*.

1.3.1.3 Officers of the Senate Council [US: 9/8/97]

A. Senate Council Chair

The Senate Council shall elect its Chair in December preceding the academic year during which the Chair shall serve. All nine of the elected faculty representatives then serving on the Senate Council shall be eligible for election to the position. *The incumbent Chair, if in his or her first year as Chair, shall also be eligible for reelection.*

The Chair of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC) or that person's designee shall preside over the election. In the November preceding the academic year during which the Senate Council Chair shall serve, the elected faculty senators will be asked to nominate current elected faculty members of the Senate Council to serve as Senate Council Chair. The SREC Chair or that person's designee ~~of the Senate Rules and Elections Committee (SREC)~~ will ascertain willingness of these nominees to serve.

If there is only one nominee who agrees to serve, then the election shall be declared completed and this person shall be the Senate Council Chair-elect, and the University Senate so notified.

Should more than one nominee be willing to serve if elected, the nominees will be offered an opportunity to provide an up to 200 word election statement, and that statement will be distributed to the elected faculty senators at least two weeks before the election. The elected faculty senators will be solicited by email to express their opinions of the nominees to the Senate Council. The Senate Council will consider this feedback in electing the next Senate Council Chair in the December preceding the June 1 start date.

The Senate Council must elect the Chair by a simple majority. If ~~there is a tie, and~~ the Senate Council is not able to elect the Chair ~~resolve the tie~~ by a simple majority by the end of December, then the elected faculty senators ~~will vote to break the tie~~ shall elect the Chair by plurality from those nominated through the above process at the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting. If there is still a tie, the Chair shall be determined by random draw.

When the person chosen is not the incumbent Chair, he or she shall be known as the Chair-elect. The Senate Council Chair is always a voting member of the Senate Council, within the provisions of the *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. The Senate Council Chair:

- 1.** Will exercise preparatory administrative functions as Chair that are attendant to the effective conduct Senate and Senate Council meetings, including the authority to call special meetings of the Senate Council (KRS 61.823.2);
- 2.** As the 'department head' of the Senate Council Office, has certain general supervisory responsibilities for managing the budget, inventory, and personnel functions of the Senate Council Office (UK Business Procedures Manual; EVPFA Inventory Policies; Human Resources Policy and Procedure Administrative Regulation 61.2; KRS 61.030);
- 3.** Performs as the Presiding Officer of the Senate Council meetings except as s/he may delegate that function to the Vice Chair of the Senate Council; as Presiding Officer possesses attendant responsibilities and authority pursuant to Open Meetings Law (KRS 61.846(1));
- 4.** Has general supervisory responsibility for: the preparation of minutes of Senate Council meetings pursuant to KRS 61.835; the distribution of these minutes to Senate Council members; the maintenance of official minutes of the Senate Council meetings pursuant to statutory UK Records schedule (KRS 171.420; President's memo 1/25/95); public accession to these minutes pursuant to the Open Meetings law (KRS 61.846(1)); and for the safe transfer of the records of the Senate Council Office to his/her successor (KRS 57.360);
- 5.** Has general supervisory responsibility for the maintenance of copies of procedures for election of Faculty Senators, as approved and submitted by college faculties (as per SR 1.2.2.1);