

ACADIA STUDENTS' UNION BYLAWS

Adopted February 2022

Bylaw #1 Mission Statement

(a) Acadia Students' Union is a student governed organization dedicated to serving its members through effective representation and communications. The Students' Union offers innovative and quality services while providing a variety of opportunities which enhance the overall University experience of the students of Acadia.

(b) Acadia Students' Union believes in and upholds the values of integrity, excellence, and respect, while recognizing the importance of fun, community spirit, and the tradition upon which the Union was founded.

Bylaw #2 Membership

- (a) There shall be three classes of membership in the Union which are:
- (b) Ordinary members, who shall consist of every student who is registered at Acadia University as a full-time student and has paid the prevailing regular membership fees for full-time students. Ordinary members defined: Any student registered in three or more courses.
- (c) Associate members, who shall be all students who are registered at Acadia University as part-time students and have paid the prevailing membership fee for part-time student. Associate members defined: Any student registered in fewer than three courses.
- (d) Honorary members, who shall be non-student and include the Chancellor, President, Faculty, Administrative Staff, Alumni of Acadia University, the Administrative Staff of the Union, and those individuals who are granted Honorary Membership by the Students' Representative Council.

Bylaw #3 Students Representative Council

- (a) There shall be a council of students designated as the "Students' Representative Council," hereinafter referred to as the "S.R.C.," which shall be elected by the members of the Union in accordance with these bylaws and relevant policy.
- (b) Subject to the Act of Incorporation, all powers of the Union are vested in the S. R. C.

Article 1: Composition

- (a) The Students' Representative Council (the "SRC") shall be composed of the following voting members:
 - i. The President (elected);

- ii. Vice President Academic & External (elected);
- iii. Vice President Events & Promotions (elected);
- iv. Vice President Finance & Operations (elected);
- v. Vice President Student Life (elected);
- vi. One representative from each of the following faculties:
 - a. Arts (elected);
 - b. Professional Studies (elected);
 - c. Pure & Applied Science (elected);
 - d. Theology (elected);
 - e. Graduate Studies (elected).
- vii. Two Councillors 'At Large' (elected);
- viii. One First Year Representative (elected);
- ix. Community Relations Representative (elected);
- x. Diversity & Inclusion Representative (appointed); and
- xi. Sustainability Representative (elected).

(b) The SRC shall also include the following non-voting members:

- i. One member of the Acadia University Administration (appointed);
- ii. One member of the Acadia University Board of Governors (appointed);
- iii. One member of the Acadia University Faculty (appointed).

(c) All members of the SRC shall attend all regular and special meetings of the SRC.

(d) Members of the SRC shall attend all meetings of standing or special committees of the SRC of which they are members, unless they are excused on reasonable grounds by the Chair of such committee.

Article 2: Purpose, Powers, Duties & Functions

(a) Subject to the Bylaws, all powers of the ASU are vested in the SRC.

(b) The SRC shall carry out its powers, duties, and functions only by:

- i. resolution;
- ii. procedure, when permitted to do so by the ASU Bylaws and policies;
- iii. Bylaw when required to do so by the ASU Bylaws; or
- iv. referendum or plebiscite when required to do so by ASU Bylaws.

(c) The SRC is responsible for:

- i. ensuring the powers, duties, and functions of the SRC are appropriately carried out according to the ASU Bylaws and policies;
- ii. ensuring that policies and programs of the ASU are appropriately developed and evaluated;
- iii. considering the welfare and interests of the ASU as a whole;

- iv. ensuring the timely creation and reporting to the SRC of the Executive Goals;
- v. overseeing the progress and implementation of the Executive Goals; and
- vi. all other responsibilities of the ASU not explicitly granted to another person or body by the ASU Bylaws.

Article 3: Oath of Office

- (a) SRC members shall both take and sign the Oath of Office before taking office and commencing their duties.
- (b) The Oath of Office for all elected and appointed officials shall be:

"I, [official's name], affirm that I will honour my office by acting in the best interests of the Acadia Students' Union.

I will act with integrity in all my roles and responsibilities.

I will respect the values of the Bylaws of the ASU.

I will strive to free myself from personal bias and make informed decisions. I will work together with my fellow officials for the benefit of all students.

I will serve to the best of my ability and hold myself accountable for the standard of my service."

Article 4: SRC Members Roles & Responsibilities

- (a) The President shall:
 - i. Be the Chief Executive Officer of the Union, and be responsible to Council for efficient and proper administration of the Union;
 - ii. Ensure the enforcement and observation of the Act of Incorporation, Bylaws, and Policies;
 - iii. Be the official spokesperson of the Union;
 - iv. Represent the interests of the Union at meetings of those external lobby organizations of which the Union is a member;
 - v. Be a signing officer of the Union;
 - vi. Be responsible for representing the Acadia student body to the Acadia Board of Governors and related committees;
 - vii. Sit ex-officio on the Senate;
 - viii. Sit ex-officio on all Union Committees and subcommittees;
 - ix. Represent the Union on any University Committees which require their presence;
 - x. Act as a liaison between the ASU Executive and the President and Vice- Chancellor of Acadia University;
 - xi. Sit on the Wolfville Town and Gown Committee and delegate other Town responsibilities to the Executive Board during the summer, and to the Community Relations Representative during the fall and winter semesters, as appropriate;
 - xii. Act as chair of the Executive Board;

- xiii. Act as the alternate communications representative of the ASU in conjunction with the Vice President Events & Promotions;
- xiv. Be responsible for other duties as outlined in Executive Policy and may be determined by the Council.

(b) The Vice President Student Life shall:

- i. Coordinate Clubs and assist with the following:
- ii. Prepare, review, and ratify their respective constitutions, as necessary;
- iii. Train Club Presidents, as necessary; and
- iv. Ensure adherence to the Bylaws and Policies, and discipline noncompliance as required.
- v. Coordinate House Councils and assist with the following:
 - a. Train the House Council Presidents;
 - b. Chair the House Council Presidents Committee; and
 - c. Assist with and approve all House Council programming.
- vi. Ensure adherence to the Bylaws and Policies, and discipline noncompliance as required.
- vii. Coordinate a session regarding legal liability for House Council Presidents and Club Presidents;
- viii. Act as the chief liaison with Residence Life;
- ix. Act as chair of the Student Life Committee;
- x. Be responsible for other duties as outlined in Executive Policy and may be determined by Council.

(c) The Vice President Events & Promotions shall:

- i. Be the communications representative of the Union and is primarily responsible for coordinating the effective advertising and promotion for all Union events and programs;
- ii. Coordinate and update social media for the Union;
- iii. Organize and coordinate Union involvement in the following events and activities on campus:
 - a. Welcome Week;
 - b. Frost Week;
 - c. Student Leadership Awards and ASU Teaching Recognition Awards; and
 - d. Other Union events or activities as determined by the Executive or by Council.
- iv. Coordinate the involvement of other Executive members in the events and activities listed in Section (c), as relevant;
- v. Act as a liaison between the Union and volunteer groups and community organizations, as well as between the students and these organizations, and:
- vi. Provide Acadia University students information regarding volunteer opportunities and to promote student volunteerism;
- vii. Nominate annually one student to receive the Volunteer of the Year student leadership award; and
- viii. Maintain records of those organizations seeking student volunteers.
- ix. Act as chair of the Events & Promotions Committee;
- x. Coordinate Axes in Action fundraising initiatives including:

- a. Overseeing the selection of an Axes in Action volunteer committee; and
- b. Remission of funds raised in consort with the Vice President Finance & Operations;
- xi. Represent the Union as a delegate to any external programming organizations.
- xii. Be responsible for other duties as outlined in Executive Policy and may be determined by Council.

(d) The Vice President Academic & External shall:

- i. Be responsible to the President and Council on academic matters of the University;
- ii. Act as a liaison between the Union and the offices of the University Vice President Academic, the Registrar, Admissions, Student Accounts, Financial Aid, Career Services, the Learning Commons, and the Student Resource Centre;
- iii. Act as an advocate for students with academic appeals or complaints;
- iv. Represent the Union as a delegate to any external lobbying organizations of which the Union is a member;
- v. Be the external lobbying communications officer of the Union and present a strategy for communicating the interests of the Union's membership to any external lobbying organizations of which the Union is a member;
- vi. Create initiatives that foster a positive academic and intellectual climate on campus and within the Union;
- vii. Act as chair of the Academic Affairs Committee;
- viii. Sit on the Senate of Acadia University and all University Committees and Boards, as required by the Senate regulations;
- ix. Make all student appointments to appropriate University Senate Committees, in consultation with the Student Senators;
- x. Be responsible for such other duties as outlined in Executive Policy and may be determined by Council.

(e) The Vice President Finance & Operations shall:

- i. Be responsible to Council for the supervision of all funds of the Union;
- ii. Have access to the accounts of the Internal Organizations, Clubs, and House Councils of the Union, and ensure that they are in good order;
- iii. Monitor and record all capital purchases of Internal Organizations and House Councils, ensuring that they remain available for use by members of the Union;
- iv. Provide financial information to Clubs, and House Councils relevant to their operations;
- v. Provide a minimum of one training session regarding relevant financial practices to the President of each House Council and Club;
- vi. Make available a minimum of one general interest financial program per semester;
- vii. Be a signing officer of the Union;
- viii. Supervise the expenditure of all funds which have been approved by Council;
- ix. Receive a certified audit for the previous fiscal year on or before the last day of September each year, and present the audit report to Council at its first regular meeting of Council in September;

- x. Present to Council a budget for the upcoming fiscal year before the last meeting in the current fiscal year;
- xi. Act as chair of the Financial Affairs Committee;
- xii. In conjunction with other relevant Executives or Coordinators, be responsible for soliciting sponsorship for Union Events and Programs, including:
 - a. Welcome Week;
 - b. Homecoming Weekend;
 - c. Frost Week;
- xiii. Other Union events or activities as determined by the Executive or by Council.
- xiv. Provide a mid-year report surrounding the financial position of the Union to Council;
- xv. Be responsible to Council for review and update of any financial policy of the Union;
- xvi. Be responsible for other duties as outlined in Executive Policy and may be determined by the Council.

(f) Councillors

- i. The Councillors shall be responsible for representing the Acadia student body, regardless of faculty, year of study, nationality, or other personal characteristics or prohibited grounds of discrimination;
- ii. Be resource Councillors for the members of the Executive and other members of Council;
- iii. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which they feel is of importance to the student body;
- iv. Sit on at least three Union or University committees;
- v. Act as Elections Assistants as required at the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer, in accordance with Bylaw 8 and Elections and Referenda Policy;
- vi. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year;
- vii. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by Council.

(g) Diversity and Inclusion Councillor

- i. In the appointment of the Diversity and Inclusion Councillor, Council shall engage in a proactive recruitment and appointment practice and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that the successful applicant for the position is representative of one or more of the following designated groups: women, LGBTQ2S+, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and visible minorities.
- ii. Acts as a general advocate for greater diversity and inclusion on campus and recommends programs, services, activities, and initiatives that create a welcoming environment for, and promotes the education and awareness of, issues impacting those students with diverse identities based upon race, ethnicity, culture, heritage, religion, gender, and sexual orientation;
- iii. Liaise regularly with campus organizations which focus on diverse groups as part of their mandate;
- iv. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which includes the delivery of programs, services, events, activities, or initiatives that further

the education and awareness of, the diversity and inclusion of, students with diverse identifies and creates a welcoming community for such students;

- v. Chair the Diversity and Inclusion Committee;
- vi. Sit on the Student Life Committee and at least one additional Union or University committee;
- vii. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year; and
- viii. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by Council.

(h) The Sustainability Councillor shall:

- i. Nurture an active interest in environmental and sustainability issues and to pursue the creation of a more sustainable campus community;
- ii. Be the chief liaison for any environmental and/or sustainability initiatives between the Union and the Acadia Sustainability Office;
- iii. Liaise regularly with campus organizations which focus on environmental and sustainability groups as part of their mandate and other inter-university student sustainability initiatives;
- iv. Serve as a voice for sustainability and advance the sustainability policies of the Union offices and Acadia offices;
- v. Develop policies on sustainability, in accordance with the Policy Development Policy;
- vi. Aid in the development and lobbying for creative sustainability policies, initiatives, educational programs, management systems, and networking activities;
- vii. Sit on the Events & Promotions Committee;
- viii. Chair the Environmental Sustainability Committee;
- ix. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which they feel is of importance to the student body, with a particular focus on sustainability;
- x. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year; and
- xi. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by Council.

(i) The Community Relations Councillor shall:

- i. Act as ASU liaison to the Wolfville Town Council;
- ii. Attend all Town Council Meetings and Town and Gown Meetings;
- iii. Hold regular meetings with the Town of Wolfville Compliance Officer;
- iv. Issue a report regarding relevant activities, events, and plans of the Town of Wolfville for presentation to Council prior to the last Council meeting of each month;
- v. Sit on the Student Life Committee ;
- vi. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which they feel is of importance to the student body;
- vii. Work with the Executive Board to promote town relations and to promote student engagement in the community;
- viii. Represent the interests of “off campus” students;
- ix. Act as the liaison between the “off campus” students and the Town of Wolfville;
- x. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year; and
- xi. Be responsible for other duties as assigned by Council.

- (j) The First Year Councillor shall :
- i. Represent Acadia students in their first year of studies;
 - ii. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which they feel is of importance to the student body;
 - iii. Sit on the Events and Promotions Committee, the Student Life Committee, and the House Presidents Committee;
 - iv. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year; and
 - v. Be responsible for other duties as are assigned by Council.

(k) Faculty Councillors

- i. One Student from the Faculty of Arts, the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science, the Faculty of Professional Studies, and the Faculty of Theology and Graduate Studies shall be tasked with representing the students of their faculty to the Acadia Senate and related bodies;
- ii. Each Faculty Councillor shall:
 - a. Sit on at least three University Senate Committees;
 - b. Serve on the Academic Affairs Committee;
 - c. Sit on the planning committee of their respective faculties, where applicable;
 - d. Present a goal document for the year, including an outline of how the position will communicate with constituents, at the first regular meeting of Council upon assuming office;
 - e. Initiate and carry out, with the approval of Council, one project per semester which they feel is of importance to the student body, with a focus on their faculty;
 - f. Represent academic concerns of students to Council and to the Vice President Academic & External;
 - g. Act as Elections Assistants as required at the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer, in compliance with Bylaw 8;
 - h. Hold at least three regular office hours per week during the academic year; and
 - i. Be responsible for other duties as are assigned by Council.

Article 5: Students' Representative Council Meeting Process

- (a) A quorum of Council shall consist of a majority of Council members (50 percent, plus one) including at least two members of the Executive Board. Unfilled positions shall not be included in determining the number of Council members;
- (b) Meetings of Council shall be governed by Robert's Rules of Order as outlined by the Chairperson.
- (c) All regular meetings of the SRC shall be open to all members of the Union, subject to the discussion of the council while in camera.
- (d) All resolutions, motions, and decisions of the SRC shall be recorded in writing or electronically and shall be accessible to students on request;

- (e) Each voting member present at an SRC meeting has one vote on matters put to a vote at the meeting unless the member is required to abstain from voting under a Bylaw or fiduciary duty.
- (f) A resolution is valid by simple majority of the SRC voting members present at the meeting, except where the Bylaws state by special resolution;
- (g) If there is an equal number of votes in favor or opposed to any matter requiring a simple majority, the resolution on motion is defeated;
- (h) SRC members present at an SRC meeting may abstain from voting on any or all motions and resolutions;
- (i) Abstentions herein shall not jeopardize quorum or unanimous consent;
- (j) SRC members shall not exercise their right to vote unless physically or virtually present at an SRC meeting, except where a voting member of the SRC has given a Proxy Statement to the SRC Chair and in accordance with Council Procedural Policy;
- (k) All members of the Union and guests invited by Council shall have the right to speak to Council upon recognition by the Chairperson. All individuals who are neither Union members nor invited guests may speak to Council upon recognition by a simple majority of Council.
- (l) Meetings of Council shall be convened and chaired by the Chairperson.
- (m) Regular meetings of Council shall be held at a time to be decided upon by Council at the beginning of each academic term.
- (n) Special meetings of Council shall be held under the following circumstances:
 - i. At the request of the President;
 - ii. At the discretion of the Chairperson;
 - iii. When a majority vote of Council calls one; or
 - iv. Upon receipt by the Chairperson of a written or electronic request signed by at least 50 ordinary members of the Union. Such a request must contain the reason for the special meeting.

Article 5: SRC – Attendance

- (a) Attendance during the attendance check shall be required for a member of the SRC to be considered present for an SRC meeting;
- (b) An SRC member who arrives up to 15 minutes after the meeting comes to order may be excused and added to the first attendance check at the discretion of the Chair;
- (c) The SRC may vote, by a simple majority of SRC members present, to excuse a member from an SRC meeting;
- (d) A motion to excuse a member must be made:
 - i. Prior to the SRC member's absence; or
 - ii. At the first SRC meeting after the SRC member's absence.
- (e) Excusable absences from SRC may include:
 - i. Medical emergencies;
 - ii. Family emergencies;
 - iii. Religious convictions;
 - iv. A required course component; or

- v. Reasonable accommodation as required or permitted by law, or ASU Bylaws, or Policy.
- (f) In contemplating an excusal, the SRC may request documentation, including but not limited to course outlines, medical notes, supervisory letters, or statutory declarations;
- (g) An SRC member is not considered to be absent from a meeting if the member is absent on Union business;
- (h) The SRC may vote, by simple majority of SRC members present, whether a member's absence is considered Union business;
- (i) An SRC member who has been absent without SRC excusal on three occasions is automatically vacated from their office.

Article 6: Proxy Statements

- (a) Each voting member of Council may give a proxy statement to any other voting member of that body.
- (b) Proxy Statements shall:
 - i. Be submitted, in written or electronic form, to the Chairperson's Office no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting where said statement is to be used, except in emergency situations where the Chairperson may use his/her discretion to shorten the notice period;
 - ii. Be given in writing to the member who is to hold said proxy no later than 24 hours prior to that meeting unless permission to shorten the notice period has been given by the Chairperson;
 - iii. Mandate the holder of the proxy as to how they should vote on specific resolutions;
 - iv. Not apply to votes of procedure;
 - v. Not apply to votes for which no mandate was given (amendments etc.); and
 - vi. Not apply to quorum calculations.

Article 7: Chairperson

- (a) The SRC shall appoint a Chairperson (the "Chair") who shall be responsible for the conduct of SRC meetings in accordance with the ASU Bylaws, and policies;
- (b) The Chair shall abide by and enforce the established procedures regarding the role of the Chair and the conduct of SRC meetings;
- (c) The Chair shall abide by and maintain the integrity of the ASU Bylaws, Policies, and Procedures and, as an SRC official, the Chair shall be governed by the Council Code of Conduct ;
- (d) A person is not qualified for the position of Chair of SRC if that person:
 - i. Ceases to be an active member of the ASU;
 - ii. Is nominated for an elected position of the SRC;
 - iii. Is an elected or appointed Union official;
 - iv. Holds any other position of employment within the ASU; or

- v. Does not have a sessional GPA of at least 2.0 at the time of the appointment.

Article 8: Deputy Chairperson

- (a) The SRC shall appoint a Deputy Chairperson (the “Deputy Chair”) who shall be responsible for assisting the Chair with respect to the conduct of SRC meetings in accordance with the ASU Bylaws, and policies;
- (b) The Deputy Chair shall abide by and maintain the integrity of the ASU Bylaws, policies, and Procedures of the ASU and, as an SRC official, the Deputy Chair shall be governed by the Council Code of Conduct;
- (c) A person is not qualified to be the Deputy Chair if that person:
 - i. Ceases to be an active member of the ASU;
 - ii. Is nominated for an elected position of the SRC;
 - iii. Is an elected or appointed Union official;
 - iv. Holds any other position of employment with the ASU; or
 - v. Does not have a sessional GPA of at least 2.0 at the time of the appointment.
- (d) The Deputy Chair shall attend all meetings of Council and shall be the Recording Secretary of the SRC;

Article 9: Transition of Authority

- (a) The authority of the SRC shall transition from the outgoing Council to the incoming Council annually on April 30 (midnight) with the authority of the incoming Council immediately vesting in the new Executive Board until the first day of the Fall Term.
- (b) Prior to the transition of authority from the outgoing Council to the incoming Council and no later than the last day of March, the outgoing Council shall appoint a non-executive member of the incoming Council as the Board of Governors Representative.
- (c) All authority of Council is delegated to the Executive Board during:
 - i. The winter break; and
 - ii. From the last day of exams until the first day of the academic year, unless Council passes a motion to the contrary, or a special meeting is called during the summer break.

Article 10: SRC Members - Roles and Responsibilities

- (a) All SRC members shall be responsible to:
 - i. Prepare for, attend, and participate in SRC and SRC committees;
 - ii. Make informed decisions;
 - iii. Abide by all ASU Policy;
 - iv. Maintain confidentiality;

- v. Respect the authority of the SRC and SRC decisions;
- vi. Act in the best interest of the ASU;
- vii. Be informed and aware of ASU programs, services, and policies;
- viii. Participate in training and orientation activities planned by the General Manager, Chairperson, or SRC;
- ix. Participate in training and orientation of their successors by having meetings and preparing transition materials; and
- x. Fulfill any other duty that may be assigned or delegated by the SRC.

Article 11: SRC Faculty and University Administration and Acadia Board of Governors - Roles and Responsibilities

- (a) Faculty representative, University Administration representative, and the Acadia Board of Governors representative shall be responsible to:
 - i. Be aware of and understand issues that impact students;
 - ii. Attend and participate in SRC meetings and in SRC committees as appointed or designated by the SRC or Acadia University for the purpose of representing student needs and interests;
 - iii. Communicate with students about the ASU's programs, policies, and decisions made by the SRC;
 - iv. Advise the SRC on any changes regarding University Policy or Procedure.

Article 12: SRC Members – Reporting

- (a) All SRC members may give a report at each regular SRC meeting regarding:
 - i. Emerging and ongoing issues impacting students; and
 - ii. All recent activities related to their roles and responsibilities as a member of the SRC.
 - iii. Committee Chairs or the Committee Chair alternate shall submit a report (written or verbal) of the Committee's activities at each SRC meeting;
 - iv. The President shall present to the SRC all issues of pertinent relevance to students after each Board of Governors meeting;
 - v. Faculty Councillors shall report to the SRC on all issues of pertinent relevance to the ASU members after each Senate meeting;
- (b) Each Executive Member shall submit a report to the SRC on the status of their executive goals:
 - i. At the first SRC meeting in September;
 - ii. At the first SRC meeting in January; and
 - iii. At the SRC meeting prior to the end of their term.

Article 13: SRC Members – Resigning

- (a) A member of Council may resign from office at any time by delivering a signed resignation to the Chairperson. Such resignation is effective at the next meeting of the SRC, when the Chairperson delivers the resignation to SRC, and the resignation is subsequently accepted by the SRC;
- (b) A resignation cannot be withdrawn once it has been delivered to the Chairperson;
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of Bylaw 8, if the seat of the President is vacated by resignation in or after January, the Presidential Alternative shall serve the rest of the President's term of office as President;
- (d) During the period in which an Executive Board seat is vacated, the Executive Board shall delegate the resigned member's duties among themselves in a mutually agreeable manner.

Article 14: SRC Members - Impeachment & Suspension

- (a) Any member of Council will be required to forfeit their position on Council upon the SRC Chair and CRO receiving a petition by an ASU member containing the following:
 - i. A clear statement of reason for impeachment based in verifiable actions and evidence;
 - ii. The student number, full name, signature, and Acadia e-mail address of each signatory;
 - iii. The total number of signatories being in excess of 15% of the ASU membership.
- (b) Should an SRC member or other ASU member challenge the merit of 14(a), a final judgement shall be rendered by the Review Board.
- (c) In the event the SRC member being impeached is on the Review Board, they must abstain from any participation in the proceedings outside of presenting their arguments of defense.
- (d) All proceedings of the Review Board are in camera with the exception of the final decision and accompanying report provided to the SRC at the subsequent meeting.
- (e) Any member of Council may, at the discretion of Council, by special resolution, be required to forfeit their position on Council for:
 - i. Not attending two or more consecutive meetings of Council, or missing a total of four or more meetings through the year, without providing written notification to the Chairperson 24 hours in advance;
 - ii. Failing to submit two consecutive reports to the Chairperson before a regular meeting of the SRC;
 - iii. Having any semester's honorarium withheld by the Review Board, based on reports received;
 - iv. Any gross violations of Union Bylaws or Policy; or
 - v. Failure to maintain a sessional GPA of 2.0 or above.
- (f) The Procedure for Impeachment by Council shall be as follows:
 - i. Any member or official of Council may be removed from office through a motion of impeachment at a regular or special meeting of Council;
 - ii. A written notice containing the motion of impeachment, as well as the basis for impeachment shall be presented to Council at least seven days before the meeting;

- iii. At the meeting, the author of the motion and the member or official facing impeachment, shall be given an opportunity to present a statement to Council in public session.
 - iv. After both parties have been provided the opportunity for statements, they must exit the room at which time the remaining Councilors will go in camera for discussion. Council will return to public session for a vote.
 - v. A special resolution is needed to carry the motion of impeachment.
- (g) If a voting member of Council is facing impeachment, they will not be eligible to vote on the motion, and their vote will not be included in quorum;
 - (h) If a voting member of Council has authored the motion of impeachment, they will not be eligible to vote on the motion, and their vote will not be included in quorum;
 - (i) Quorum for a motion of impeachment shall be 75 percent of the voting members of Council. All abstentions during the vote shall not be counted in quorum. Failure to meet 75 percent quorum of present voting members shall result in a re-vote, to be held in the same meeting, following further discussion as directed by the Chairperson.
 - (j) Any member of Council may be suspended from office by a majority vote of Council for a period not exceeding 90 days. Written notice containing the motion of suspension, as well as the basis for suspension, must be provided to Council at least seven days before the meeting at which the matter will be discussed in camera and voted on in public session. All or a commensurate apportionment of the suspended member's honoraria will be retained by the ASU in the event of suspension.

Bylaw #4 Standing Committees of Council

Article 1: General Information

- (a) The Chair of each standing committee is responsible for:
 - i. Creating a meeting agenda and distributing it to committee members no later than 48hrs in advance of the meeting;
 - ii. Ensuring minutes are recorded and distributed to members no later than 48hrs in advance of the ensuing meeting;
 - iii. Forwarding all adopted committee minutes to the SRC Chair;
 - iv. Meet no less than once per month during the Fall and Winter Terms unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.
- (b) Quorum for all standing committees shall be 50% of voting members unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.
- (c) Council retains the right to not accept, in whole or in part, any recommendation made to it by its Standing Committees, or any other Committee of Council unless otherwise stated in bylaw.
- (d) All standing committees are open for members to attend with the exceptions of Executive Board, Review Board, Nominating Committee, and Elections Committee.
- (e) Members do not have voting privileges but may be granted speaking rights at the discretion of the Chair.
- (f) Members who wish to have voting privileges can be formally appointed to the committee by the SRC after receiving an approved motion by committee members.

- (g) Meetings shall be made known to the membership on the ASU website and promoted by any other means determined by the committee.

Article 2: Executive Board

(a) Membership:

- i. The President, who shall chair the committee;
- ii. The Vice President Academic & External;
- iii. The Vice President Events & Promotions;
- iv. The Vice President Finance & Operations;
- v. The Vice President Student Life; and
- vi. The General Manager (non-voting), who shall act in the capacity of experienced professional advisor and as a resource for institutional history and precedent to the voting members of the Executive Board

(b) Rights and Responsibilities

- i. The administrative and operational authority of the Union shall be vested in the Executive Board;
- ii. Voting members of the Executive Board of the Union shall:
 - a. Be responsible to Council; and
 - b. Meet at least once a week during their term of office, as necessary;
- iii. The Executive Board shall have a Presidential Alternate;
- iv. The Presidential Alternate shall be chosen by a majority of the Executive Board;
- v. Should the President leave office or become incapacitated before completion of their term of office, the Presidential Alternate shall become the acting President.
- vi. The Executive Board shall appoint a Vice President to be a Board of Governors Representative.

(c) Meetings

- i. The Executive Board shall meet at the call of the President or a majority of the members of the Executive Board;
- ii. Quorum for the Executive Board shall be fifty percent of the voting members, including the President.

Article 3: Review Board

(a) Membership

- i. The Chairperson of Council (non-voting), who shall act as chair of the Review Board;
- ii. The President;

- iii. One additional member of the Executive Board of Council;
- iv. Two non-executive, voting members of Council, to be appointed by Council at the first regular meeting of Council after the By-Election
- v. Two members at large, to be appointed by Council at the first regular meeting of Council after the By-Election.
- vi. The General Manager shall act as a resource person for the Review Board, when deemed necessary.

(b) Rights and Responsibilities

- i. The Review Board shall act impartially, in good faith, and in the best interests of the Union;
- ii. Interpret and enforce the Bylaws and policies, and act as a resource for the Chairperson in performing their duties;
- iii. Interpret and enforce the Council Code of Conduct;
- iv. Review all relevant reports concerning the performance and undertakings of the Executive, Council, Committees, and Officers of Council regarding their responsibilities;
- v. Determine the amount of honoraria to be withheld to those eligible positions based on performance reports;
- vi. Review and make recommendations to SRC on any amendments to honoraria for the ensuing year;
- vii. The Review Board shall be invested with the judicial function of the Union;
- viii. Perform other duties as Council may deem necessary.

(c) Meetings

- i. The Review Board shall meet at the request of the Chairperson or President;
- ii. All discussions and documentation regarding performance of the Executive, Council, Committees, and Officers of Council shall be considered confidential, and the minutes of such discussions shall be sealed. Council may unseal the minutes and related documentation for their reference regarding an appeal through a majority vote of Council. The contents of any unsealed minutes and documents shall only be referred to while Council is in camera and shall be resealed after the deliberations of Council regarding the appeal.

Article 4: Events & Promotions Committee

(a) Events & Promotions Committee

- i. The Events & Promotions Committee is established to address any issues and projects pertinent to the office of the Vice President Events & Promotions, or any matters referred to it by Council;
- ii. The committee shall develop a document to present to Council for ratification including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. A communication and promotion strategy; and
 - b. An outline of event themes, timing, promotion, and location of events.

- iii. The committee shall evaluate the success and financial outcome of each event;
 - iv. The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.
- (b) The committee shall consist of:
- i. The Vice President Events & Promotions, who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. One Events & Promotions Director to be appointed by the committee;
 - iii. Three non-executive, voting members of Council, as selected by Council;
 - iv. The First Year Representative;
 - v. One House President, appointed by the House Presidents Committee;
 - vi. The Diversity and Inclusion Representative; and
 - vii. The General Manager or designate (non-voting).

Article 5: Academic Affairs Committee

- (a) The Academic Affairs Committee is established to address any issues pertinent to the office of the Vice President Academic & External, or any matters referred to it by Council;
- (b) The Committee shall consist of:
- i. The Vice President Academic & External, who shall Chair the Committee;
 - ii. One Academic Affairs Director to be appointed by the Committee;
 - iii. The Faculty Councilors; and
 - iv. One non-executive, voting member of Council, as selected by Council.
- (c) The Committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 6: Financial Affairs Committee

- (a) The Financial Affairs Committee is established to address any issues and projects pertinent to the office of the Vice President Finance & Operations, or any matters referred to it by Council;
- (b) The committee shall be responsible for proposing the yearly budget of the Union to Council;
- (c) After the budget has been approved by Council, further requests for finances shall be made to the committee, which will then forward recommendations to Council;
- (d) The Financial Affairs Committee shall be responsible for performing annual club and house council financial account audits. The committee will also notify Council of any recommended club or house council status changes, including recommending club and house council disciplinary actions up to de-ratification on the basis of an audit;
- (e) The Financial Affairs Committee shall be responsible for reviewing grant applications.
- (f) The committee shall consist of:
- i. The Vice President Finance & Operations, who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. One Financial Affairs Director to be hired by the committee;
 - iii. The President;
 - iv. An Internal Organization Coordinator, as selected by the Internal Organization Coordinators at the first meeting;
 - v. Three non-executive, voting members of Council, as selected by Council; and
 - vi. The General Manager or designate (non-voting).

- (g) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 7: Student Life Committee

- (a) The Student Life Committee is established to liaise with clubs, off-campus affairs and general student affairs, and address issues and projects pertinent to the office of the Vice President Student Life, or any matters referred to it by Council;
- (b) The committee shall be responsible for ratifying all Student Organizations and notifying Council of any recommended status changes, including recommending club and house council disciplinary actions up to de-ratification;
- (c) The committee shall be responsible for planning the Student Life Summit;
- (d) The committee will meet no less than twice a month during the academic year;
- (e) The committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Vice President Student Life, who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. One Student Life Director to be appointed by the committee;
 - iii. The Diversity and Inclusion Councilor;
 - iv. Two non-executive, voting members of Council, as selected by Council;
 - v. The First Year Councilor; and
 - vi. The Community Relations Councilor.
- (f) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 8: House Presidents Committee

- (a) The House Presidents Committee shall address all issues and concerns of those students living in University residences in addition to approving individual House Council budgets presented at the beginning of each term;
- (b) The House Presidents Committee shall be composed of the following members:
 - i. The Vice President Student Life, who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. The First Year Councilor; and
 - iii. The House President from each University residence.
- (c) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 9: Diversity & Inclusion Committee

- (a) The Diversity and Inclusion Committee is established to liaise with associated clubs, as well as inform and recommend best-in-class equity, diversity, and human rights programs, tools, and initiatives that will build and strengthen the capacity of the ASU and Acadia to effectively serve the diverse population of the student community;
- (b) The Committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Diversity and Inclusion Councilor, who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. The President or designate;
 - iii. One voting member of Council;

- iv. A self-identified student member of the LGBTQ2S+ community;
 - v. An international student member;
 - vi. A self-identified female student member;
 - vii. A self-identified student member of the Black community;
 - viii. A self-identified student member of the Indigenous community;
 - ix. A self-identified student member with a disability.
- (c) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 10: Governance Committee

- (a) The Governance Committee is established to deal with all matters concerning the governance of the Union, the Bylaws, and policies, or any matters referred to it by Council;
- (b) The committee shall be responsible for reviewing the Bylaws, including any additions or amendments prior to appearing in a referendum for ratification, and ensuring that they are consistent with and reflective of the values of the Union;
- (c) The committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Chairperson of Council (non-voting), who shall Chair the committee;
 - ii. The Deputy Chairperson of Council, who shall act as a non-voting Recording Secretary for the committee;
 - iii. The President;
 - iv. Two non-executive, voting members of Council; and
 - v. The General Manager (non-voting).
- (d) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 11: Sustainability Committee

- (a) The Environmental Sustainability Committee is established to nurture an active interest in environmental and sustainability issues and to pursue the creation of a more sustainable campus community;
- (b) The Committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Sustainability Representative, who shall Chair the committee;
 - ii. Two voting members of Council;
 - iii. The Vice President Student Life;
 - iv. Two members at large.
- (c) The committee shall perform other duties as deemed necessary by Council.

Article 12: Nominating Committee

- (a) The Nominating Committee is established to make recommendations to Council with respect to all appointed positions of Council including but not limited to the positions of Diversity and Inclusion Representative, Chairperson of SRC, Deputy Chairperson of SRC, Chief Returning Officer, and Deputy Chief Returning Officer.

- (b) The Nominating Committee shall consist of:
 - i. The Chairperson of Council (non-voting), who shall chair the committee;
 - ii. The President or designate;
 - iii. One member of the Executive;
 - iv. One non-executive Council member; and
 - v. Two ordinary or associate members of the Union representing one or more of the following four designated groups: women, LGBTQ2S+, people with disabilities, indigenous peoples, and visible minorities .
- (c) Any member on the committee shall abstain from discussion and voting if the position they currently hold is being considered for nomination.
- (d) All committee positions shall be filled at the first regular meeting of Council;
- (e) Any conflicts of interest among members of the Nominating Committee shall be made known at the beginning of the Nomination process;
- (f) Any member with a conflict of interest shall temporarily step down for the duration of the nominating of that position;
- (g) The Nominating Committee shall publicly advertise all appointed positions for a minimum of 14 days through Union media, emails, and posters;
- (h) The Nominating Committee shall make a recommendation to Council regarding the appointment of the applicant that receives the majority of the votes of the Committee;
- (i) Council shall consider the recommendation of the Nominating Committee at the earliest opportunity. If Council has not completed the ratification process by April 30, the incoming Executive Board shall be responsible for completing the appointment process;
- (j) All discussions and material referenced by the Committee shall remain strictly confidential and any Committee members found to be in breach of the confidentiality provisions shall be dismissed from the Committee and replaced by a suitable candidate as approved by Council.

Article 13: Ad Hoc Committees of Council

- (a) Committees other than the Standing Committees of Council may be constituted by Council or the Executive Board at any time for any purpose, but these Committees must be given explicit terms of reference and membership by Council or Executive Board motion which creates them. They must also be announced and promoted on the ASU website and social media channels.

Bylaw #5 General Manager

- (a) The Students' Union shall employ a General Manager, who shall be the most senior employee of the Student Union.
- (b) The General Manager shall:
 - i. manage the general business affairs of the Student Union as determined from time to time by the Executive Board;
 - ii. assist the Executive Board in the implementation of their directives;
 - iii. advise the Executive Board members in the performance of their duties;

- iv. assist in the development, implementation, and maintenance of the bylaws and policies as required;
 - v. ensure appropriate long-term planning for the Student Union;
 - vi. ensure administrative continuity for the Student Union;
 - vii. ensure the long-term financial stability of the Student Union in cooperation with the Vice-President Finance and Operations;
 - viii. assist with the preparation and implementation of budgets;
 - ix. manage the Union's human resources in cooperation with the President;
 - x. implement and maintain workplace occupational health and safety requirements per applicable statutes;
 - xi. manage the Student Union's offices and space;
 - xii. oversee the management of technology within the Student Union;
 - xiii. foster, develop, advance, and maintain the Student Union's business relationships with external organizations;
 - xiv. in cooperation with the President and Vice-President Academic & External, oversee the organization of the Student Union's general meetings;
 - xv. make emergency decisions, when necessary, to be ratified at the next meeting of the Executive Board;
 - xvi. serve as a signing authority for the Union;
 - xvii. assist, as required, the auditors in their audit of the Union;
 - xviii. in cooperation with the President, liaise with the Union's legal counsel and auditors as required from time to time;
 - xix. in cooperation with the President, assist with planning of the strategic direction and development of the Union;
 - xx. in cooperation with the President, oversee orientation for new Executive Officers;
 - xxi. ensure that appropriate insurance policies are in place, including Directors' and Officers' liability insurance; and
 - xxii. have such other powers and duties as may be set out in bylaw or policy or assigned by the Executive Board from time to time.
- (c) The General Manager shall report to the President and may only be dismissed with cause after a special resolution of Council.
- (d) Should the General Manager become aware of any bylaw or policy breaches by the President, they are duty bound to report such breaches to the Chairperson of the SRC after having informed the President and seeing no remedy within a reasonable period of time.

Bylaw #6 General Meetings

- (a) The general meeting of the Union shall be convened and presided over by the Chairperson of the SRC.
- (b) The Executive and the SRC are bound by any and all votes of the general meeting of the Union.
- (c) A quorum for a general meeting of the Union shall be 2% or 100 of the student members of the Union whichever is greater.

- (d) Notice of all motions to be considered by the general meeting of the Union shall be presented to the Chairperson of the SRC at least 20 days before the date of the general meeting, and shall be signed by the mover, seconder, and 10 other student members of the Union before being added to the agenda for approval at SRC, approval not being unreasonably withheld.
- (e) A general meeting of the Union shall have all powers inherent in the Union granted by the Act of Incorporation including the power to revoke any decision of the SRC or the Executive if appearing on the agenda.

Article 1: Annual General Meeting

- (a) The Union shall schedule an annual general meeting not before September 30 and no later than November 30.
- (b) The agenda shall be approved by the SRC at least 15 days in advance of the general meeting and distributed to the membership through e-mail and on the ASU website no later than 10 days prior to the general meeting.
- (c) Mandatory agenda items shall be:
 - i. A presentation of the financial audit;
 - ii. Executive Board report on the year to date and forthcoming goals;
 - iii. The provision of a question period, the length of which shall be determined by the Chairperson.

Article 2: Special General Meeting

- (a) A special general meeting of the Union may be called by the President as they consider it necessary; or shall be called by the Chairperson of the SRC on receipt of petition signed by the majority of the SRC, or by 10% of the student members of the Union setting forth the reasons for the proposed meeting. At least 10 days notice will be given of such a meeting to the membership with an accompanying agenda, but it shall be held within 15 days of receipt of such a request.

Bylaw #7 Bylaws & Policies

- (a) SRC members are responsible for knowing and abiding by ASU bylaws and policies.
- (b) Any decision or action not in accordance with bylaw or policy is deemed void and unenforceable and may result in that SRC member incurring personal liability for any loss or damage as a result of non-compliance.

Article 1: Bylaw amendments

- (a) Council may amend these bylaws only in the circumstance of bringing the ASU into legal compliance resulting from an action outside of its control.

- (b) Bylaw amendments shall be voted on by the membership through a referendum during the General Election and in accordance with Election and Referenda Policy and meet the following conditions:
- i. Notice of the exact terms of the proposed amendment shall be given to the SRC at a regular meeting.
 - ii. The proposed amendment shall be given wide publicity beyond the minutes of the SRC.
 - iii. The SRC, at a regular meeting subsequent to the meeting at which notice was given, must agree to the amendment appearing in a referendum by special resolution.

Article 2: Policy amendments

- (a) Policies may be proposed or amended at Council in accordance with the Policy Development and Amendment Policy.
- (b) Notice of motion must be provided for a proposal or amendment to be considered.

Bylaw #8 Elections & Referenda

Article 1: Principles

- (a) The ASU shall ensure that Union Elections are administered in accordance with the ASU's mission, vision, and values and that Union Elections shall be:
 - i. Fair and equitable for all participants;
 - ii. Administered in a manner that is independent and impartial;
 - iii. Transparent and accountable;
 - iv. Democratic;
 - v. Environmentally and financially sustainable; and
 - vi. Grounded in professionalism and respect for all parties.

Article 2: Statement of Independence

- (a) The ASU and members of the SRC will not endorse or support the views of any candidate in any Union Election and the views of any candidate during the campaign shall not necessarily represent the views of the ASU, or current elected or appointed officials.
- (b) The Chief Returning Officer, Deputy Chief Returning Officer, Poll Supervisors, Poll Clerks, and all other election officials shall not endorse or support any candidate in any Union Election in which they serve in their respective capacity.

Article 3: General Election, By-Election & Elected Positions

- (a) The ASU shall hold a General Election annually for the following elected positions in accordance with Elections and Referenda Policy:
- i. President;
 - ii. Vice President Academic & External;
 - iii. Vice President Events & Promotions;
 - iv. Vice President Finance & Operations;
 - v. Vice President Student Life;
 - vi. Two Councillors at large;
 - vii. Sustainability Councilor;
 - viii. Community Relations Councilor;
 - ix. Faculty Councilors.
- (b) The ASU shall hold a By-Election annually for the following elected positions and in accordance with Elections and Referenda Policy:
- i. First Year Councilor;
 - ii. Any vacant Council seats not filled in the General Election;
 - iii. Any vacant Council seats (including Executive members) that become vacant following the General Election and prior to the Close of Nominations for the By- Election.
- (c) If any office of any member of the Executive Board is vacant or vacated (by resignation or impeachment) after the close of nominations for the By-Election, but prior to the last day of classes in the fall semester, a Special Election shall be held within 30 days of the date that the seat was vacated. Any of the 30 days that fall within the Christmas Break shall not be counted as part of the 30 day period within which the Special Election shall be held.

Article 4: Chief Returning Officer

- (a) Council shall appoint a Chief Returning Officer ("CRO") by no later than September 15 to serve a fixed term continuing until the end of that academic year.
- (b) An active member shall not be eligible to serve as a CRO if they are:
- i. A current ASU elected or appointed official;
 - ii. A candidate or official agent in a Union Election;
 - iii. Employed by the ASU in any other position.
- (c) The CRO shall not be eligible to be nominated in any Union Election during their term of office and, for greater certainty, the CRO remains ineligible to be nominated in any Union Election during their term of office from September 15 to the end of the academic year even if they resign their position or are removed from office by Council.
- (d) The CRO shall be governed by the Council Code of Conduct as if they were an SRC official.

Article 5: Deputy Chief Returning Officer

- (a) The SRC shall appoint a Deputy Chief Returning Officer no later than August 1 to serve a fixed term commencing on August 1 and continuing until the end of the following academic year.

- (b) The Deputy CRO shall be an active member of the ASU and shall possess a sessional GPA of at least 2.0 at the time of the appointment.
- (c) An active member shall not be eligible to serve as the Deputy CRO if they are:
 - i. A current ASU elected or appointed official;
 - ii. A candidate or official agent in a Union Election;
 - iii. Employed by the ASU in any other position.
- (d) The Deputy CRO shall not be eligible to be nominated in any Union Election during their term of office and, for greater certainty, the Deputy CRO remains ineligible to be nominated in any Union Election during their term of office from August 1 to the end of the following academic year even if they resign their position or are removed from office by the SRC.
- (e) The Deputy CRO shall be governed by the Council Code of Conduct as if they were a SRC official.

Article 6: Elections Committee

- (a) The Elections Committee shall be composed of the following members:
 - i. The Chairperson of Council who shall serve as the Chair of the Elections Committee;
 - ii. Two members of the Executive Board of Council as appointed by Council (one of whom shall serve as the Vice-Chair of the Elections Committee);
 - iii. Two non-executive voting members of Council as appointed by Council.
- (b) All members of the Elections Committee shall remain officially neutral during any Union Election, Referendum, or Plebiscite and shall not engage in any campaigning for any candidate during their term as a member of the Elections Committee;
- (c) No member of Council is eligible to sit as a member of the Elections Committee if that member is nominated to run in any Union Election;
- (d) The Elections Committee shall:
 - i. Adjudicate complaints filed against the CRO or DCRO;
 - ii. Adjudicate appeals filed in relation to decisions of the CRO;
 - iii. Provide advice on any issue related to a Union Election including Referendum and Plebiscites, to the CRO as requested by the CRO or as deemed necessary by the Elections Committee;
 - iv. Confirm the form of the nomination paper to be used in a Union Election;
 - v. Confirming that the name of the candidate as it appears on the ballots meets the requirements and that the list of names of candidates on the ballots meets the requirements; and discipline any candidate or election official who contravenes the provisions of bylaw or policy;
 - vi. At the request of the CRO and upon hearing all of the relevant information and upon being satisfied that the Union Election was not conducted in accordance with the Principles outlined in Article 1, the Elections Committee may recommend to Council that a Union Election or Referendum, in whole or in part, be overturned, in which case Council shall make a determination on the issue within seven days of receiving the recommendation of the Elections Committee.

- (e) The Elections Committee shall hold as many meetings in each year as it considers necessary to deal with election issues.
- (f) Quorum shall be a majority of the members of the Election Committee.
- (g) Meetings of the Election Committee may be called by the Chair of the Elections Committee, or President , or at the request of the CRO,.

Article 7: Election Officials

- (a) The following persons are Election Officials:
 - i. The Chief Returning Officer;
 - ii. The Deputy Chief Returning Officer;
 - iii. The Poll Clerks.
- (b) Election Officials will:
 - i. Carry out their duties in an impartial and objective manner;
 - ii. Not support or endorse any candidate in any manner;
 - iii. Not sign the nomination form for any candidate;
 - iv. Not be eligible for nomination for any position in an election for which they are an official;
 - v. Not submit nomination papers for an elected position in an election for which they are an official.
- (c) Members of Council are eligible to serve as Poll Clerks at the discretion of the Chief Returning Officer.

Article 8: Voting

- (a) Only members of the Union may vote in a Union Election, Referendum, or Plebiscite.
- (b) In the case of a tie vote for an elected position, the CRO will determine the winner by way of a coin toss. The Elections Committee shall set the time and place of the coin toss.
- (c) There is no Proxy voting permitted in any Union Election.

Article 9: Overturning Election Results

- (a) Council may, on the recommendation of the Elections Committee, and after hearing all of the evidence and upon being satisfied that the Union Election was not conducted in accordance with the Principles contained in Article 1, declare that the results of the Union Election are overturned and further declare that the Union Election results are null and void, in which case Council shall set the date of the new Union Election.
- (b) The new Union Election shall be held within 30 days of the decision of Council to declare that the results of the Union Election are overturned.

Article 10: Referendum & Plebiscites

- (a) A Referendum or Plebiscite (as the case may be) may be initiated by Council on any issue through a special resolution of Council.
- (b) The wording on the ballot shall be approved by Council
- (c) A Referendum shall be held prior to the ASU implementing a new student fee or amending these bylaws.
- (d) A fee designated as a Student Association fee must be renewed every five years by referendum.
- (e) All Referenda and Plebiscites shall require a quorum of 15 percent of eligible voters in order to be considered valid.
- (f) All Referenda and Plebiscites shall be posed in such a way that only "YES", "NO", or "UNDECIDED" responses are available on the ballot.
- (g) "UNDECIDED" votes shall not be counted toward the 15% quorum.
- (h) The ballot shall be ordered as follows:
 - i. "YES";
 - ii. "NO";
 - iii. "UNDECIDED".
- (i) A spoiled ballot shall not be counted as an eligible vote.
- (j) Only members of the Union are eligible to vote in any Referendum or Plebiscite.
- (k) Each voter shall be allowed to vote for one option.
- (l) There is no Proxy voting permitted in any Referendum or Plebiscite.
- (m) The provisions for overturning an Election Result as provided in Article 9 shall apply in the case of Referendum or Plebiscites with such necessary modifications as the Elections Committee deems appropriate.

Article 11: Amendments

- (a) No amendments to the Elections and Referenda Policy will be made by Council during the nomination period, campaign period, or voting period of any Union Election, Referendum, or Plebiscite.

Bylaw 9 External Student Organizations

- (a) The Union may become a member of an external student organization that requires the Union or its members to pay a membership fee to that organization, but only if the Union and the organization enter into a binding, written agreement that guarantees the following:
 - i. The Union's membership in the organization does not preclude the Union's membership in any one or more other organizations;
 - ii. Any organization which the Students' Union is a member of must be open and transparent in its decision-making processes;
 - iii. The external organization must be financially open and transparent. The Students' Union must be able to hold the organization accountable for all of its expenditures in order to allow the Students' Union to be fully accountable to its members for any funds paid to the external organization;

- iv. The Union's constitution shall always supersede those of the organization's and at no time may the Union enter into a binding agreement with an organization that has a constitution and bylaws that are in contradiction to those of the Union's;
 - v. The Union's membership rights and privileges always supersede those of the organization's and at no time may the Union enter into a binding agreement with an organization that has a constitution, bylaws or policies that make claim over the membership of the Union;
 - vi. The organization recognizes that the Union reserves the right to terminate its membership in the organization according to the Union's own bylaws and policies.
- (b) Only after determining membership requirements as per (a) have been met and prior to becoming a trial or full member of an external student organization, any obligations between the parties will be reviewed by the Union's legal counsel and an opinion letter shall be provided to Council for review.