

SENATE BILL #2196

Title: Realignment of Committee Chair Selection Process

Date: February 26, 2008

Authors: Senators Elliott and Murdock

Sponsors: Senators J. Berry, S. Berry, D. Day, Knapp, Hunzeker, Rader, and Weaver

1. WHEREAS, the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) has invested Standing Committees with a substantial role in fulfilling the
3. legislative process; and
4. WHEREAS, the quality of the legislative review process is directly correlated with the
5. ability of chairs to provide leadership in conducting effective committee meetings; and
6. WHEREAS, the By-laws of ASUW require Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates
7. to run as one ticket in the election process; and
8. WHEREAS, the By-laws of ASUW declare that the ASUW Vice President shall be the
9. head of the Legislative Branch of ASUW; and
10. WHEREAS, the ticket system leaves open the possibility of residual presidential politics
11. to seep into the selection of chairpersons to ASUW Standing Committees; and
12. WHEREAS, the importance of selecting qualified candidates to serve as ASUW Standing
13. Committee chairs should outweigh any political ramifications of the election; and
14. WHEREAS, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate is elected by the members of the
15. Senate to serve the Senate's interest in pursuing and achieving its goals and objectives for
16. the year.
17. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
18. (ASUW) that Article II, Section 1 of the ASUW By-laws be amended by striking

Strike

- subsection E to reflect the language in Addendum A; and
20. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article II, Section 4 of the ASUW By-laws be
21. amended to reflect the language in Addendum B; and
22. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article II, Section (B) (1) of the ASUW By-laws
23. be amended by inserting subsection (a) to reflect the language in Addendum C.

Referred to: Constitution Committee and Student Issues Committee

Date of Passage: _____ Signed: _____

(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on _____, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate action.” _____

ASUW President

1st reading
3/11/08

2nd reading
3/25/08

DO PASS from Constitution
DO NOT PASS from Student Issues

~~3rd reading
3/25/08~~

called indefinitely
3/25/08

ADDENDUM A

ARTICLE II

- Section 1.** Specific authorities and responsibilities of the ASUW Vice President include the following:
- A. Working with the Executive staff and organizing and coordinating ASUW committees in effecting better legislation and attaining student goals.
 - B. The Vice president shall serve as chairperson of the ASUW Senate. He/she may not participate in debate unless he/she first relinquishes the chair to the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.
 - C. The Vice President may vote on any matter only in the event of a tie.
 - D. The Vice President, with the advice of the President and the consent of the ASUW Senate, shall appoint and may remove for cause, all members of the ASUW Standing and Special Committees. Except in extenuating circumstances, all senatorial positions on ASUW Standing committees shall be presented for approval to the ASUW Senate for no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class of the Fall semester of the term. Other positions shall be filled as time permits.
 - ~~E. The Vice President may, with the advice of the President and the consent of the ASUW Senate, appoint chairpersons of ASUW Standing and Special Committees.~~
 - F. With the advice and approval of the ASUW Legislative Branch, the Vice President may appoint one (1) executive assistant to assist with the Vice President's responsibilities.
 - G. The Vice President shall be in charge of maintaining a permanent, public record of all formal actions and business of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial branches of ASUW.
 - H. Administering the oath of office to all ASUW Senate members.
 - I. His/her presence during the summer for participation in the ASUW vice presidential internship.

ADDENDUM B

ARTICLE II

- Section 4.** The ASUW Senate shall serve as the Legislative Body of the ASUW. The ASUW Student Senate shall have the following authority and responsibilities:
- A. The ASUW Senate shall directly represent the students by the efficient, responsible, and coordinated functioning of student life and ASUW activities at the University, through the enactment of legislation in the form of bills or resolutions.
 - B. It shall have the authority to assume whatever responsibilities it deems necessary to fulfill its obligations to the students.
 - C. It shall have the authority to recommend to the Trustees the needed amount of ASUW fees to be assessed of all fee paying students for financial support of ASUW sponsored programs and activities.

- D. In accordance with applicable University regulations, the provisions of the Constitution, and the ASUW Finance Policy, the ASUW Senate shall have the authority to annually allocate all ASUW monies received through student registration fees.
- E. It shall have the authority to appoint and direct such special committees to study or investigate any issue of concern to the ASUW Senate in fulfilling its responsibilities for the University students; such committees shall serve only during the Senate term in which they are appointed.
- F. It shall have the authority and responsibility to develop standards of good practice for sponsorship or financial support from ASUW.
- G. It shall approve, or reject by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, any of the ASUW President's appointees or ASUW representatives to fill student held positions on University committees and boards.
- H. It shall approve, or reject by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, any of the ASUW ~~Vice President's~~ Senate President Pro Tempore appointees to ASUW standing and special committees.
- I. The Senate shall have the responsibility to establish an enduring Finance Policy to include restrictions and procedures for utilization of ASUW monies in the best interest of the ASUW's purposes.
- J. The Senate shall have the power to move into Executive Session regarding matters concerning all paid employees of ASUW with the exception of the ASUW President and Vice President; or concerning matters of legal affairs brought by or against ASUW. When moving into Executive session only voting members of the Senate, the ASUW Secretary, and the ASUW Chair shall be allowed to stay; unless otherwise specifically stated in the motion. The Senate shall reconvene into open session to take any formal action on discussion from Executive Session.

ADDENDUM C

ARTICLE II

Section 7. Senate Officers:

- A. The Chairman of the ASUW Senate is the ASUW Vice President, who shall prepare the agenda and be the presiding officer for all meetings.
- B. At the first business meeting following the installation of new Senators, the following officers are elected from the Senate voting membership:
 - 1. President Pro Tempore – He/she shall preside over the Senate and carry out the related duties of the Vice President including the preparation of the agenda, in the case of the Vice President's absence or at his/her request. He/she shall also serve as Chairperson of the Committee-of-the-Whole as well as assist the Chairperson of the Senate.
 - a. The President Pro Tempore shall, with the advice of the ASUW President and Vice President and consent of the ASUW Senate, appoint chairpersons of ASUW Standing and Special Committees.

Handwritten notes:
 VP
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 Chair of the

2. Parliamentarian – He/she shall keep the ASUW Senate procedure in accordance with the ASUW Constitution, By-Laws, and the most recent Robert's Rules of Order. He/she shall inform the Chair of any procedural violations, which the Chair will remedy. He/she shall be President Pro Tempore in case the President Pro Tempore is absent and shall aid the Chair of Senate.
3. Sergeant-at-Arms – He/she shall preserve order as the Chair may direct and assume the duties of the Parliamentarian in the case of the absence of the Parliamentarian.
4. Marshal- Immediately following the call to order, he/she shall encourage the Senate to join him/her in the reading of the Senate's Mission Statement as stated in the Rules and Procedures.
5. Historian – He/she shall compile and catalog all ASUW related documents (i.e. legislation, newspaper articles, correspondence, pamphlets, etc.); and shall serve to obtain pertinent materials for the establishment and continuance of a permanent ASUW archives. He/she shall oversee and manage such archives during term of office.

C. Election Procedures for Senate Officers.

1. Nominations from the Senate floor by anyone except the Chairperson.
2. Written nomination submitted to ASUW Secretary by any Senator.