SENATE BILL #2366

TITLE:

Vacancy of Office Procedures Revision

DATE:

September 11, 2012

AUTHOR:

Senator Messer

SPONSORS: Senators Bales, Brink, Christensen, Igo, Messer, Powell, Ogle, Olson, and

Willson

- 1. WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Student Government of the Associated Students of the
- 2. University of Wyoming (ASUW) to represent and voice the interests of every student; and,
- 3. WHEREAS, this is accomplished by ensuring that each College is allotted a number of
- 4. Senate seats in proportion to the size of their respective student bodies; and,
- 5. WHEREAS, vacancies can and have occurred; and,
- 6. WHEREAS, the current policy for filling vacant seats does not address the process for filling
- 7. seats in some situations; and,
- 8. WHEREAS, this could cause a seat to go unfilled for an extended period of time; and,
- 9. WHEREAS, this does a disservice to the constituents of the College in which the vacancy
- 10. occurs.
- 11. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Student Government of the Associated Students of the
- 12. University of Wyoming (ASUW) that Article V, Section 2 of the ASUW By-Laws be
- 13. amended to reflect the changes contained in Addendum A;
- 14. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article II, Section 10, Subsection A, Clause iii,
- 15. Subclause b of the ASUW By-Laws be amended to reflect the changes contained in
- 16. Addendum B;
- 17. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Article IV, Section 5, Subsection A of the ASUW



18. By-Laws be ame	ended to reflect the	changes contained in Addendum C.
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Referred to: Const	titution Committee	
Date of Passage:	09/25/12	Signed: But Roll
The same and the same of the same and the sa		(ASUW Chairperson)
"Being enacted on_	9/27/12	, I do hereby sign my name hereto and
approve this Senate	e action."	At Shaw
		ASUW President
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Addendum A

ARTICLE V

Vacancy of Office

Section 2. Procedure for filling Senate vacancies between elections:

- A. Upon the resignation, permanent absence or incapacity of any Senator, the senatorial candidate from the college who received the next highest number of votes in the preceding election shall fill the vacancy.
 - i. In accordance with Article IV, Section 3, Subsection C of the ASUW By-Laws, senators terminated from their senate seats due to a change in college shall be placed subsequent to all other candidates from the preceding election of the college to which he/she changes.
- B. The ASUW Vice President will notify the person with the next highest number of votes as soon as a Senator's resignation has been approved at an ASUW Senate meeting. The person notified will have two school days to accept or refuse the Senate position. Upon acceptance the person will be sworn in at the next ASUW Senate meeting. In the event of refusal, the same procedure will be followed with the next available candidate. This process will include write in candidates, if applicable.
- In the event that a vacancy occurs and the list of eligible candidates from the preceding General Election has been exhausted, the procedure outlined in Subsections A and B of this Section will then be applied to the results of the associated Primary Election.
- D. In the event that a vacancy occurs and the list of eligible candidates from the preceding General Election and associated Primary Election has been exhausted, the Elections Committee will begin an application and interview process to fill the vacant seat.
 - i. As soon as possible after the vacancy occurs, a call for applicants will be made to the affected College with the application period lasting two (2) weeks from the time of initial notice.
 - ii. At the close of the application period, the Elections Committee, with the aid of the ASUW Adviser, will review the applications for eligibility (see Article IV, Section 6, Subsection A.)
 - iii. All those meeting initial eligibility requirements will be contacted with an interview time. Interviews will be conducted no later than two (2) weeks after the close of the application period.
 - After all interviews have been conducted, the Elections Committee will debate and vote on which candidate shall be granted the seat. If no candidate receives a majority, then all but the two leading candidates are removed from consideration, and a second vote is taken.
 - The Elections Committee Chairman will notify the chosen applicant as soon as possible after a decision has been made. Upon acceptance, the candidate will be sworn in at the next ASUW Senate Meeting.

Addendum B

ARTICLE II

Legislative Branch

Section 10. Senate Committees:

- A. In order to provide continuity in ASUW activities and business along with providing a mechanism for timely participation by the ASUW in University processes, the following permanent ASUW Senate committees are established:
 - iii. The ASUW Elections Committee:
 - a. <u>Purpose.</u> The Committee shall administer all ASUW election policies and superintend all elections conducted under the auspices of the ASUW.
 - b. Powers. The Committee shall formulate and recommend ASUW election policies and procedures as well as review and provide recommendation on any proposed changes to such policies or procedures. Additionally, the Committee shall have the responsibility to provide, in accordance with established procedures, the initial hearing and recommendation to the ASUW President in any situation where the fairness of an ASUW election is contested. The Committee shall also have the authority to coordinate with the Student Outreach and Policy Committee for elections public relations and marketing. Further, The Committee shall conduct interviews in accordance with Article V. Section 2, Subsection D in the event that they become necessary.
 - c. <u>Composition</u>. The Committee shall consist of a minimum of seven (7) ASUW Senators, each representing a different College, one (1) of whom shall serve as chairperson, and a minimum of three (3) ASUW Students-at-Large, with one (1) being a Freshman Senator. The ASUW Vice President shall appoint one (1) Executive Assistant to serve as an exofficio on the committee.

Addendum C

ARTICLE IV Elections

Section 5. General Election:

A. The candidates for ASUW Office who receive a plurality of the votes for any position shall be declared the winners of those positions. The number of winning candidates shall not exceed the number of apportioned seats of any college.

i. In the event that there were no candidates for a given Office, the individual with the greatest number of write-in votes shall be declared the winner.

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