

**SENATE BILL #2654**



**TITLE:** Establishment of ASUW Elections Committee  
**DATE INTRODUCED:** March 12, 2019  
**AUTHOR:** Chief of Staff Harris  
**SPONSORS:** Senators Savage, Strock, and Welsh; Chief of Legislative Affairs Sanders; SAL Cloud

1. WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible
3. through accurate representation and responsible, effective leadership; and,
4. WHEREAS, ASUW elections are vital to providing students accurate representation at
5. the University of Wyoming; and,
6. WHEREAS, currently, the Student Outreach and Programming committee is tasked with
7. running election polling stations and planning and executing election events in collaboration
8. with the Elections Commissioner, such as: Meet the Candidates, candidate information
9. sessions, and the Presidential Debate; and,
10. WHEREAS, these events are large scale and make the committee unable to host any other
11. events during the spring semester; and,
12. WHEREAS, currently, the Elections Commissioner is interviewed and appointed by the
13. ASUW President and confirmed by the ASUW Senate; and,
14. WHEREAS, the ASUW President currently does not work with the Elections
15. Commissioner to maintain impartiality and fairness; and,
16. WHEREAS, the Elections Commissioner would be more impartial if appointed by a
17. committee of Senators and only removed by the Committee by a unanimous vote; and,
18. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of

19. Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW By-Laws be updated to reflect the
20. changes in Addendum A and Addendum B; and,
21. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the changes outlined in Addendum A and B take effect
22. at the beginning of the 107<sup>th</sup> Administration.

Referred to: Steering: Student Outreach and Programming

Date of Passage: 3/26/19 Signed: *Jason A. Williams*  
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on 4/8/19, I do hereby sign my name hereto and

approve this Senate action.” *Alexandra Mulhall*  
ASUW President

## Addendum A

### 11. Special Committees

E. The ASUW Elections Committee:

- a. Purpose. The Committee shall convene three full academic weeks before the end of the fall semester and in the spring semester to administer all ASUW election policies for the general election in the spring. The Committee shall not administer special elections. The Committee shall also interview and appoint the Elections Commissioner.
- b. Powers. The Committee shall help plan and execute outreach for the promotion of ASUW elections in conjunction with the Elections Commissioner. They shall appoint (with confirmation of the Senate), support, and advise the Elections Commissioner. The Committee shall be vested with all necessary and appropriate powers to carry out its purpose under these rules. The Committee shall hold no fewer than two (2) information sessions for all candidates and possible candidates seeking office within ASUW between the date applications are available and the time applications are due.
- c. Composition. The Committee shall consist of a minimum of five (5) ASUW Senators, one (1) of whom shall serve as chairperson, and the Elections Commissioner. The ASUW Vice President shall appoint one (1) Executive Assistant to serve as an ex-officio on the committee. The ASUW Advisor, or designee, shall serve as advisor.

## **Addendum B**

### **Article 5. Elections Policy**

#### **Section 5.01 ASUW Elections Commissioner**

##### **1. Selection, Compensation, and Removal**

- A. The ASUW Elections Committee shall interview and appoint the Elections Commissioner, to be approved by the ASUW Senate no later than the first regular ASUW Senate meeting of the spring semester.
  - a. Individuals to be considered for the position of Elections Commissioner may not currently hold a position within ASUW or be running for a position within ASUW in the next spring election.
- B. The Elections Commissioner will report to the ASUW Elections Committee and the ASUW Advisor, and may be removed from office, with cause by ASUW Elections Committee by a unanimous vote.
- C. The Elections Commissioner shall be provided with a stipend commensurate with the duties of their office, to be set annually in the budgeting cycle, and paid half of the stipend before the Election and half of the stipend following the completion of the Elections.
- D. In the event of the resignation or removal of the Elections Commissioner, a replacement shall be selected following the procedures outlined above.

##### **2. Responsibilities and Authorities**

- A. The Commissioner shall, in conjunction with the ASUW Elections Committee, meet weekly to discuss issues pertaining to the ASUW Elections.
- B. The Commissioner shall work with the ASUW Elections Committee to prepare the annual Elections Code, to be approved by the ASUW Senate.
- C. The Commissioner shall work with the Elections Committee to create all marketing for the ASUW General Elections, with a goal of ensuring the largest voter turnout as reasonably possible.
- D. The Commissioner shall hold no fewer than two (2) information sessions for all candidates and possible candidates seeking office within ASUW between the date applications are available and the time applications are due, in conjunction with the ASUW Elections Committee.
- E. The Commissioner shall be in charge of counting all ballots of the elections in conjunction with the ASUW Advisor or designee.
  - a. The Commissioner is authorized to determine and use software needed to count all ballots of the elections according to Instant-Runoff Voting.
- F. The Commissioner shall ensure that no speech, advertisement, or any other related activity pertaining to the current election and its respective races occurs inside the ASUW Office or at official ASUW functions, other than those sponsored and conducted by the Elections Committee.
- G. The Commissioner will ensure that all candidates adhere to the Elections Code.
- H. The Commissioner shall preside over all hearings and inquiries regarding the violations of the ASUW Elections Code.

- I. The Commissioner is authorized to spend funds appropriated for the election, with the approval of the ASUW Elections Committee.