

Resolution to Change the Date of Appointment for Rules Committee

Whereas, the current term of Rules Committee members begins in mid-March, a time based on the old quarter system calendar, and

Whereas, there is a need for greater continuity of Rule Committee membership during Spring semester, when appointments to Senate committees and nominations for University committees are made,

Therefore, be it resolved that Article 4, Section 5, of the University Senate Constitution be revised to change the starting date for newly elected members of the Rules Committee from immediately following the March election until August.

The relevant handbook section follows, with changes in boldface:

*The Rules Committee shall consist of the chair of the Senate as chair, the chair-elect, the immediate past-chair, the secretary, the secretary-elect, and six members elected by the Senate. Elected members shall serve two-year staggered terms. Election of members to two-year terms shall be held by secret ballot at each March meeting of the Senate. Candidates who receive a majority vote shall be elected, **and their appointment shall become effective the following August.** Nominations shall be made from the floor at the Senate's February meeting. Information about the candidates shall be distributed to all Senators with the agenda for the March meeting. All members of the committee must be members of the Senate at the time of their election. Election to fill the unexpired term of an elected member of the Rules Committee shall be held at the first meeting of the Senate after the vacancy occurs. No elected member can succeed himself or herself as an elected member except when he or she is filling an unexpired term. The committee shall serve as the Committee on Committees. All questions concerning Senate procedures shall be referred to this committee, and it shall recommend to the Senate the disposition to be made of any dispute concerning the operation of the Senate. It shall ensure that unit senators are duly elected, and that no unit of the University is denied the representation to which it is entitled under these Articles. The committee should make periodic studies of the Senate with respect to its objectives and its role in faculty governance, and should recommend changes that should be made to enable the Senate to better serve the University.*