

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-XXXX

TITLE: Senate Vacancy Integrity Act (SVIA)

AUTHOR(S): Judiciary Chair Jonathan C. Stephens

SPONSOR(S):

RULE XI

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE

(AMENDED: 2009-100, 2009-104, 2009-121, 2009-140, 2010-122, 2011-114, 2011-116, 2011-130, 2014-106, 2014-111, 2016-117, 2018-114, 2018-121, 2019-124, 2019-1104, 2020-1034, 2020-1064, 2021-1003, 2023-122, 2023-136, 2023-142, 2023-145)

1. Replacement and Agenda Committee:

. Duties:

- i. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will recommend to the Senate replacement Senators to fill any vacant seats not handled under Rule XII, Section 3 of the Rules and Procedures of the Student Senate. The Senate will hear these recommendations during the committee's report (See Rule XIII).
 1. Following a vote by the committee regarding a vacant position not handled under Rule XII, Section 3 of the Rules and Procedures of the Student Senate, the Replacement and Agenda Committee Chair will notify all

5. Information and Communication Committee:

Duties:

- i. The Information and Communication Committee Chair or their designee will administer orientation sessions for all new Senators, Senators-elect, and Replacement and Agenda Committee nominees to vacant seats not handled under Rule XII, Section 3 of the Rules and Procedures of the Student Senate (see below).

RULE XII

VACANCY REPLACEMENT

(AMENDED: 2010-122, 2014-106, 2016-120, 2019-124, 2019-1104, 2020-1064, 2021-1003, 2021-1010, 2023-119)

1. Standard Vacancies in Senate:

- a. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the Senate, the Replacement and Agenda Committee will announce the vacancy in their report to the Senate, as outlined in Chapter 340 of the Student Body Statutes.
- b. Information regarding Senate vacancies will be made public by the Information and Communication Committee as soon as is possible (see Rule XII §6).
- c. The Replacement and Agenda Committee will interview all applicants for replacement Senate seats, and may recommend to the Senate the applicant the committee deems best suited for the seat in a fair, objective, unbiased manner.
- d. Applicants will submit any documents required by the Replacement and Agenda Committee, including an affidavit affirming to the qualifications of the applicant to hold the seat in question, no later than 12:00 PM ET, two days before the meeting at which the interviews will be held.
- e. The appointment process for these recommendations will be as follows: three minutes of presentation, three minutes of questions and answers, two rounds of alternating con and pro debate with one minute per round per side, and one-minute final privilege.
- f. The Senate may, when considering the committee's recommendation, open the floor to nominations of the other applicants for the seat in question with the support of the majority of the members present.
 - i. If other nominations are made, elections will be held for the Senate seat by rising vote, unless ordered to be by a roll call vote.
 - ii. If a nomination from the floor is made, each nomination along with the committee's recommendation will be allowed 5 minutes of presentation followed by 3 minutes of question and answer. Debate will proceed with three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length, followed by one round of two minutes per candidate. If more than one additional floor nomination is made, there will still be three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length, followed by one round of two minutes per candidate.
- g. If the Senate does not adopt the committee's recommendation, the floor will immediately be opened to nominations of the other applicants for the seat in question, and elections will be held for the Senate seat by rising vote.
 - i. Each nomination will be allowed 5 minutes of presentation followed by 3 minutes of question and answer. Debate will proceed with three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length,

followed by one round of two minutes per candidate. If more than one additional floor nomination is made, there will still be three alternating rounds of con/pro for each candidate, each to be one minute in length, followed by one round of two minutes per candidate.

2. Summer Replacements:

- a. Whenever a Senator is not enrolled in classes at the university's main campus in either of the summer terms, that Senator may appoint a summer replacement to hold their seat for the summer term(s) that they will not be enrolled in classes.
- b. The Senator retaining a replacement will submit all necessary forms, including an affidavit affirming the qualifications of the applicant to hold the seat in question.
- c. If a Senator's summer replacement resigns or is expelled from the Senate, the vacancy will be filled pursuant to §1 of this Rule, provided that the original Senator will still regain their seat at the start of the fall semester (or Summer B if the original Senator is not enrolled for Summer A).
- d. Whenever a Senator is not enrolled in classes at the university in either of the summer terms, that Senator may, instead of appointing a replacement, request that the Replacement and Agenda Committee interview for a summer replacement as outlined in §1 of this Rule, so long as that Senator submits this request within the same timeline outlined in Chapter 309 of the Student Body Statutes for appointing a replacement.
- e. If a Senator chooses to appoint a summer replacement to hold their seat for the summer term(s) that they will not be enrolled in classes, then the Senate must confirm said appointment in accordance with the Constitution of the Student Body.

3. Senator Representative Integrity Replacement Procedure:

- a. When a Senator formally resigns from a position, they shall have seven (7) calendar days following the resignation submission to name a replacement to serve in their capacity as a Student Senator, effective immediately upon receipt of an email correspondence to the Senate President Pro-Tempore or Acting Chair of the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
 - i. This procedure shall not be eligible for Senators who resign by non-attendance.
- b. Senators who invoke this replacement procedure shall not be eligible to be named a replacement under this procedure until the next meeting following the Validation of the Election Results that occurred during the term in which the Senator resigned.