

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2023-1298

TITLE: Fall and Spring Vacancy & Replacement Act

AUTHOR(S): Judiciary Chair Jonathan C. Stephens

SPONSORS:

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. **Spring and Fall Replacements:**

- a. Whenever a Senator is not enrolled in classes at the university's main campus in either the spring or fall term, that Senator may appoint a semester replacement to hold their seat for the semester that they will not be enrolled in classes.
 - i. Acceptable reasons for a replacement include semester study abroad programs.
- 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 semester 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 following semester granted their term has not ended.
- d. If a Senator chooses to appoint a semester replacement to hold their seat for the semester term that they will not be enrolled in classes, then the Senate must confirm said appointment in accordance with the Constitution of the Student Body.

Proviso: This Rules and Procedures Revision shall be dedicated to former Senator Zoe Richter (CALS), who authored the first iteration of this bill.