

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2024-1501

**TITLE: Procedure for Replacement Emergencies for Student Senators (PRESS)
Revisal**

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**RULE XII
VACANCY REPLACEMENT**

(AMENDED: 2010-122, 2014-106, 2016-120, 2019-124, 2019-138, 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2021-111, 2023-119, 2023-195, 2024-199)

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: Emergency Senate Replacement Procedure~~

- a. When a Student Senator formally resigns from their senatorial position per the procedure listed in §340.1(4), they shall ~~have the option to have seven (7) academic 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~~ Any Resigned Senator must name their replacement within forty-eight (48) hours of resignation to the Rules and Ethics Chairperson, Senate President, and Senate President Pro-Tempore or Acting Chair of the Replacement and Agenda Committee.
 - i. The replacement candidate must be named via email correspondence, including contact information for the replacement candidate, pursuant to RULE XII (3)(a) by 11:59PM ET the day prior to the Replacement and Agenda Committee meeting.
- b. The appointment process for any Resigned Senator's replacement candidate will be as follows: three (3) minutes of presentation, three (3) minutes of questions and answers, two rounds of alternating con and pro debate with one (1) minute per round per side, one final round or alternating con and pro debate with two (2) minutes per side, and one-minute final privilege.
 - i. In the event that a skeleton agenda must be prepared by the Senate Secretary, A Resigned Senator's replacement candidate will be pursuant to RULE XII (3)(b).
 - ii. The replacement candidate may provide a resume to the members of the senate for qualification review.
 1. This resume shall be sent by email correspondence to the senate president and senate president pro-tempore prior to or during the senate meeting during which they are up for consideration.
 2. Any resume submitted shall have all personal information redacted.
- c. If a Resigned Senator's replacement candidate is not able to be physically present at the Senate meeting, they shall be allowed to submit a video or audio presentation following RULE XII (3)(b).
- d. A Resigned Senator's replacement candidate shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Senators present.
- e. If the Senate chooses not to approve the Resigned Senator's replacement candidate, the vacant seat shall follow the procedure of Standard Vacancies in the Senate outlined in RULE XII (1).

i. Stipulations:

1. The resigning Senator must have served for a minimum of four (4) Senate meetings, which can be non-consecutive.
2. The replacement individual selected by the resigning Senator can serve for up to two consecutive legislative sessions as defined below. The Senate may extend this maximum by a 3/5-2/3 vote.
 - a. *Clarification of Legislative Intent:* The term “legislative session” shall be defined as a period ending at the conclusion of a semester (Fall, Spring, Summer A, Summer B) or at the validation of election results in the fall or spring semesters in accordance with RULE XIV (1)(g).
 - b. If the replacement selected by the resigned Senator is approved at the last meeting of a legislative session, they shall be permitted to attend the next orientation scheduled during the following legislative session.
3. A Senator named via this procedure shall have the ability to name a summer replacement, with this individual serving until the conclusion of the original placement senator’s 2 legislative sessions.
4. Each Senate seat, as defined in §322, may only have one Replacement Senator designated via this procedure, RULE XII (3), within the originally elected term of office.
 - a. *Clarification of Legislative Intent:* The term “elected term of office” refers to the annual period that senators are elected to serve.

ii. Contingency:

1. If the original Senator resigns from their seat (as per the procedure defined in §340.1(4)) and is replaced with more than two legislative sessions remaining, the Replacement and Agenda Committee can, after legislative sessions, accept candidates under their normal procedure (see RULE XI) to fill the seat for the remainder of the elected term beyond those legislative sessions.
2. If the resigning Senator does not name a replacement (through either non-response or refusal to name one) for the vacant seat within seven (7) academic days following their resignation submission, the Replacement & Agenda Committee shall immediately become responsible for the selection of the replacement as specified in RULE XII (1).

iii. **Prohibitions:**

1. This procedure shall not be eligible for Senators who resign by non-attendance and non-compliance.
2. Senators who invoke this replacement procedure shall not be eligible to be named a replacement under this procedure until after the conclusion of the term they were originally elected.
3. The replacement individual selected by the resigning Senator cannot have been a candidate who has qualified for office and has been placed on the ballot in the same election the resigning Senator was elected.
 - a. *Clarification of Legislative Intent:* If the intended replacement individual ran in the same election and lost, they cannot be named as a replacement by someone who won.

The Replacement Senator's Term shall not exceed the duration of the originally elected term of office of the seat they hold.

 7/25/24

Monish Vijayaraghavan
Senate President

Date