

**STUDENT SENATE BILL 2026-1101**

**TITLE: Senate Vacancy Nomination Procedure Clarification – RULES AND PROCEDURES AUTHORIZATION**

**AUTHOR(S): Member at Large Matthew Rowe**

**SPONSOR(S):**

**Rule IX**

**Attendance and Constituency**

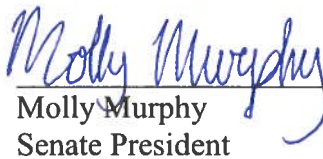
(Amended: 2011-116, 2014-106, 2019-124, 2019-138, 2021-104, 2023-125, 2023-146, 2023-191, 2025-210, 2025-212, 2026-119)

**E. Vacancies**

- a. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall announce vacancies in their report to the Senate, as outlined in Chapter 340 of the Student Body Statutes.
- b. Information regarding Senate vacancies shall be made public as soon as possible.
- c. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall offer an interview to 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 in the best interest of the student body, regardless of political affiliation.
  - i. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall establish clear and transparent selection criteria for recommending nominees for Standing Committee Chairs, Standing Committee Seats, and Replacement Senators to fill vacant senate seats. These criteria shall include, but not be limited to:
    1. Qualifications including strong academic standing, a proven track record of leadership experience in student organizations, clubs, or other groups that highlight their ability to manage responsibilities, and communication skills essential for engagement in meaningful dialogue.
    2. Experience including involvement in community service or advocacy work demonstrating a dedication to positively impacting their peers, participation in campus initiatives or projects to engage with the campus community, and

familiarity with the legislative processes and procedures including the functions and responsibilities of the Student Senate.

3. Commitment to serving the student body and their constituency, including a demonstrated dedication to representing diverse student interests, a track record of advocating for student concerns and addressing campus issues, and willingness to fulfill the responsibilities of serving.
  4. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively within the Senate, including teamwork and consensus-building skills, respectful and professional conduct in decision-making, openness to diverse perspectives, willingness to compromise when necessary, and a commitment to uphold the values and goals of the Student Government and Student Senate.
- d. Applicants shall submit any documents required by the Replacement and Agenda Committee, including an affidavit affirming 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 shall be held.
- e. The appointment process for these recommendations shall be as follows: three minutes of presentation from the candidate or Chair of the Replacement and Agenda Committee, three minutes of questions and answers, ~~two~~ three rounds of alternating con and pro debate with ~~one~~ three minutes per round per side, and ~~one~~ three minutes final privilege.
- f. If the Senate does not adopt the committee's recommendation, the seat shall remain vacant. The Replacement and Agenda Committee shall announce the vacancy in their report to the Senate.

  
Molly Murphy  
Senate President

10/1/2026  
Date