

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Amendment to Chapter 11 Elections

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

The Committee on Committees (COC) is the only elected body in the UCSC Senate. COC nominates all divisional officers, all Senate committee members and chairs, and recommends UCSC representatives to system-wide committees. This amendment to the elections bylaw is intended to resolve problems that arise when an insufficient number of nominees to fill the Committee on Committees is put forward during the regular nomination process. The amendment will change the method by which any remaining vacant slots on the committee are filled.

For filling vacancies due to insufficient nominations, the bylaw now invokes the mechanism in COC's committee charge (**13.14.2**) for replacing members who step down before completing their two-year terms.

13.14.1 There are five Santa Cruz Division members. Vacancies are filled by election in the winter quarter by mail ballot in accordance with Chapter 11 of these Bylaws.

13.14.2 Each year either two or three seats on the Committee fall vacant. Members are elected to two-year terms running from September 1 following election. If an elected member fails to serve or fails to complete any year of a term, the Committee submits a nomination for replacement to the Division. The new member shall serve with authority only after confirmation by the Santa Cruz Division, and serves for the remainder of the year. An election will be held, in accordance with SCB 13.14.1, to fill the vacancy for the second year of the term.

The unintended consequence of using this method, which essentially creates a single-year term for any member brought to the committee using 13.14.2, is that the staggered sequence of alternately electing either two or three members per year is disrupted. In recent years, due to members being "elected" by this method and/or appointed to fill the second year of a term, COC has either completely turned over (had all new members in a single year) or had only one continuing and four new members. The result is a loss of continuity in committee membership that can have a negative impact on the functioning of this committee.

COC is extremely careful in appointing Senate committees so that only approximately half of the membership of any given committee changes each year. Continuity on Senate committees is very important to their effective functioning. Yet, due to the workings of the current bylaw, COC itself has been plagued by a disruptive series of replacements.

The proposed amendment aims to stabilize the staggered replacement schedule for COC while leaving in place the opportunity for nominations to the committee to come from the faculty at large as well as the authority of the Senate to ratify any nominees the committee itself puts forward.

Current wording	Proposed wording
<p>Chapter 11. Elections</p> <p>11.1 All balloting in the Santa Cruz Division is either by mail or, if arising from a motion in a meeting of the Divisional Senate, conducted in the meeting.</p> <p>11.2 All elections in the Santa Cruz Division are conducted by the Secretary under the direction of the Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections in accordance with SB 340A-B.</p> <p>11.3 The Committee on Rules, Jurisdiction, and Elections determines the dates on which Divisional elections should be held, counts or appoints tellers to count the ballots, and certifies the results to the Chair of the Santa Cruz Division.</p> <p>11.4 Nominating petitions shall be filed with the Secretary by the deadline specified in the Notice of Election, which will be no less than fourteen and no more than twenty eight calendar days following the mailing or electronic distribution of the Notice. Each nominating petition for an office must be signed by five voting members and must contain certification of acceptance by the nominee or nominees. Each nominating petition may include as many nominees as there are places to be filled.</p> <p>If the number of nominees is equal to the number of places to be filled, all the nominees will be declared elected. If the number of nominees is less than the number of places to be filled, all the nominees will be declared elected and the remaining vacancies remaining</p>	<p>Chapter 11. Elections</p> <p>11.1 No change</p> <p>11.2 No change</p> <p>11.3 No change</p> <p>11.4 Nominating petitions shall be filed with the Secretary by the deadline specified in the Notice of Election, which will be no less than fourteen and no more than twenty eight calendar days following the mailing or electronic distribution of the Notice. Each nominating petition for an office must be signed by five voting members and must contain certification of acceptance by the nominee or nominees. Each nominating petition may include as many nominees as there are places to be filled.</p> <p>If the number of nominees is equal to the number of places to be filled, all the nominees will be declared elected. If the number of nominees is less than the number of places to be filled, all the nominees will be declared elected and the remaining vacancies remaining</p>

<p>will be treated as mid-year vacancies to be filled in accordance with SCB 13.14.2.</p> <p>11.5 A voter may cast one and only one vote for each place to be filled in an election. Candidates receiving the highest plurality of votes cast are elected. If there is a tie vote for the last place to be filled, the selection shall be by lot, conducted by the Secretary.</p>	<p>will be treated as mid-year vacancies to be filled in accordance with SCB 13.14.2.<u>will be filled by the Committee on Committees. The nominees selected by the Committee on Committees will serve with authority only after confirmation by the Santa Cruz Division.</u></p> <p>11.5 No change</p>
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Respectfully submitted,

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

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