

B F2020.08

An Amendment to the Eight Chapter of the Bylaws to Redefine the Functionality of the Steering Committee

A bill for the consideration of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government

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Whereas, the mission of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government (hereafter LSA SG) is to “actively seek the voices of LSA students and advocate their interests to improve academic and non-academic life”;¹ and,

Whereas, LSA SG utilizes its Bylaws to structure and facilitate official business, and recognizes the need for amendments to the Bylaws to improve its function; and,

Whereas, many functionalities enumerated in the current chapter on the Steering Committee are outdated compared to current practices; and,

Whereas, the timeline of the Semesterly Committee Review is too prolonged to be easily recalled in the opinion of the Counsel, and could be shortened by one week without sacrificing the functionality of that meeting; and,

Whereas, minor edits contained herein are equally effective in the form of a bylaw amendment than in a less formal minor bylaw edit act; and,

Be it therefore resolved, that the bylaws be updated according to the language in Appendix A; and,

Be it finally resolved, that this change takes immediate effect.

¹ The Constitution of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Student Government. Article II

Chapter 8 Steering Committee

8.00.00 **Purpose.** The Steering Committee shall:

- (a) ~~Oversee~~ **Review** the entire operations of the Government, its projects, and its committees.
- (b) Deliberate on policy recommendations given to it by the Internal Review Committee or other committees to the Government in order to develop short and long-range plans for the Government.
- ~~(c) Confront administrative problems or difficulties, and take action in cases of emergency.~~
- ~~(d)~~ (c) Providing the necessary support and resources for committee chairs and committees
- ~~(e)~~ (d) Initiating and maintaining the process of transition between different administration after Internal Elections

8.00.01 **Composition.** The voting members of the Steering Committee are all executive officers of the Government (see Chapter 4) and all Committee, Subcommittee and Task Force Chairs. The Vice President shall preside at meetings of the Steering Committee, and the Secretary shall take the minutes, ***unless they are not present, at which time a designee may be assigned to the role.***

8.00.02 **Attendance Requirements.** All Chairs and Executive Officers as determined by 8.00.01 are required to attend each meeting or they shall incur absences for each meeting they miss. If a committee, subcommittee or task-force chair is unable to make it, then the vice-chair shall attend the meeting instead. Should both the Chair and Vice-Chair not be able to attend Steering, the Chair may appoint someone from their respective committee to serve in his or her place. If both the chair and vice-chair of the committee, subcommittee or task-force are unable to attend Steering, the chair must have the absence excused by the Secretary.

8.00.03 **Meetings.** The Steering Committee shall meet weekly during the fall and winter semesters, except for the weeks when there are no general meetings, and must have a transition meeting following the announcement of new executive officers or the election of new Committee, Subcommittee, and Task Force Chairs. The Steering Committee, by a majority vote and approval from ***a majority of*** the Executive Officers, may cancel a scheduled Steering meeting.

8.00.04 **Virtual Meetings.** In weeks where the Executive Board deems that there is little business requiring the attention of Steering or that there are circumstances taking place that would hinder attendance of Steering, the Executive Board may by majority vote choose to have a virtual meeting. This meeting may be conducted online and shall be primarily informational. Members shall not incur absences for virtual meetings. No matters may be voted upon and approved by Steering during a virtual meeting.

8.00.05 **Quorum.** Quorum consists of a majority of voting members of the Steering Committee.

8.00.06 **Report.** The Vice President shall report actions of the Steering Committee to the Government.

8.00.07 **Veto.** The Government may veto any action taken by the Steering Committee by a two-thirds vote.

8.00.08 **Reserve Clause.** All powers and functions of the Steering Committee not described in section 8.00.00 are reserved to the Government.

8.00.09 **Planning.** All New Business on the agenda for the Government ~~shall~~**may** be discussed by the Steering Committee.

8.00.10 **Appellate Functions.** Representatives may choose to bring up matters of concern to Steering so long as they concern multiple committees or many members of the Government. If any of the decisions

made by the Executive Board are contested by other members of the Government, these decisions may be reviewed and appealed by the Steering Committee. All decisions requiring action by the Steering Committee shall require a two-thirds majority to approve.

8.00.11 **Semesterly Committee Review.** Every semester, at least ~~three~~*two* weeks before *the* Internal Elections, the Steering Committee shall, either in a regularly scheduled meeting or at another scheduled time, conduct a meeting to review the effectiveness and necessity of every committee, subcommittee, and task force. At this meeting the members of the Steering Committee shall *justify discuss* the continuation of every committee, subcommittee, and task force. If there is consensus at the meeting ~~is~~ that any particular committee(s), subcommittee(s), and/or task force(s) should be discontinued, members of the Steering Committee shall draft legislation to disband that particular body *or bodies*.