

**B W2021.05**

**An Amendment to the Second Chapter of the Bylaws Allowing for the Further Movement of the Chair**

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

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Sponsored by: Tyler Watt, Gaby Torres, Anna Colvin, Jacob Cohen, Sophia Rich, Divya Manikandan, Maleny Crespo, Riley List, Max Stoneman, Caroline Theuerkauf, Gaurie Gunasekaran, Cody Jonaitis, Danny Hwang, Zackariah Farah, Sarah Salino, Joseph Lobodzinski, Selena Bazzi

**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”;<sup>1</sup> 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 reflect current practices; and,

**Whereas**, there will doubtless one day arise a matter before the government where all members of the Executive Board will be interested in providing their thoughts through debate; and,

**Whereas**, the importance of a neutral Chair in parliamentary systems cannot be understated, as their even-keeled approach allows for all sides of a question to be heard and respected without the distraction of bias; and,

**Whereas**, it is preferable to establish a system to select a chair before that system is presently needed.

**Be it therefore resolved**, that the Bylaws be amended with the language contained in Appendix A; and,

**Be it further resolved**, that this amendment take immediate effect; and,

**Be it finally resolved**, that LSA SG recommits itself to holding meetings founded upon the high ideals of fairness, equity, and respect towards all who participate.

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

## Appendix A

2.00.14 **Moving the Chair.** The President may give up the chair on a motion if ~~s/he~~ **they** wish~~s~~ to participate in debate. The chair shall be moved to the first person on the following list who relinquishes ~~his/her~~ **their** right to participate in debate on the motion:

- (a) Vice President
- (b) Treasurer
- (c) Counsel
- (d) Academic Relations Officer
- (e) External Relations Officer
- (f) Student Life Relations Officer
- (g) Secretary

*2.00.15 Moving the Chair Beyond the Executive Board. When the present Chair relinquishes the chair in order to participate in the debate (or due to reasons of bias), and no other members of the Executive Board are present and able to chair the meeting without bias, the President shall call for nominations from the body of an unbiased voting member capable of serving as Chair for the duration that a particular motion is before the government. Once all nominations are heard, a vote shall be taken by secret ballot. The Chair and Counsel shall tally the votes; if the Counsel is serving as Chair, they shall tally the votes along with the individual serving as secretary. If no individual receives a majority of the vote, further votes shall be taken, with the individual receiving the fewest votes being eliminated with each successive round. Once an individual is elected to serve as Chair with the majority support of the government, they shall oversee the debate and disposal of whatever motion is before the government. After this motion is disposed of, they must yield the chair.*