



# Undergraduate Assembly

UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

## Bylaws of the Undergraduate Assembly

Passed by acclamation on November 9, 1981

Last revised on April 5, 2017

### **SECTION I: Members**

#### **Duties of Members**

1. Objective Duties
  - a. Failure to perform objective duties of UA membership under the UA Constitution shall be denoted by the accrual of “absences” and are handled under the following section.
  - b. Members receive absences for missing general body meetings, committee meetings, or airport shuttle shifts, as below.
  - c. Absences received for missing general body meetings and absences received for missing committee meetings are counted separately.
  - d. The President and Vice-President are considered members and shall be bound by this policy and subject to its sanctions as appropriate.
  
2. General Body Meetings (GBMs)
  - a. There is no such thing as an excused absence at a GBM.
  - b. Failing to attend a GBM counts as one GB absence.
  - c. A member who attends less than one hour of a GBM that takes longer than one hour shall be considered to have failed to attend the GBM.
  - d. Arriving late to a GBM will count as one-half GB absence.
    - i. Arriving late is defined as arriving at the meeting after the roll call is called.
    - ii. Roll call will begin at the designated time of the start of the meeting, but will not occur earlier than the designated meeting time.
  - e. Leaving a general body meeting early will count as one-half GB absence.
    - i. Leaving early is defined as when a member leaves before the meeting has adjourned without returning before adjournment.
    - ii. Members who leave a meeting for more than 20 minutes in aggregate shall be considered to have left early, even if they return before adjournment.
    - iii. Members who leave and return when a meeting is in recess shall not be considered as leaving early.
    - iv. Should a meeting exceed its scheduled time by more than 30 minutes, a vote to adjourn shall be called and if successful shall immediately move the meeting to Communications. A second adjourn vote shall, if successful, terminate the meeting.
  - f. All absences incurred for the second two meetings at which the Annual Budget is considered shall be counted double towards the number of permitted absences that semester.
  - g. No member shall receive absences for failing to attend an emergency General Body Meeting, as defined in these bylaws.

3. Committee Meetings
  - a. A Committee Director shall schedule their committee meeting such that, under ideal conditions, all UA members are able to attend. The Executive Board may excuse absences from Committee meetings if it is their judgment that the meeting has been scheduled capriciously,
  - b. If a member misses a committee meeting, he or she receives a full Committee absence,
  - c. If a member arrives late or leaves early from a committee meeting (with the definition for both being the same as for general body meetings), he or she receives one-half committee absence,
  - d. If a member arrives late or leaves early from a committee meeting (as above) but with at least 24 hours notice to their committee director, he or she receives no committee absences,
  - e. If a member misses a committee meeting with twenty-four hours notification to his or her committee director, and an update on individual progress, he or she receives one-half committee absence at the Committee director's discretion.
  
4. Airport Shuttle Shifts
  - a. All UA members are required to fulfill two shifts for the UA Airport Shuttle each time it is operated. One Airport Shuttle shift may be fulfilled with marketing as defined by the Airport Shuttles Committee and/or the Secretary. Shifts are finalized and therefore fixed 24 hours before the launch of the shuttles.
  - b. The number of shifts required per member for each time the UA Shuttle is run may be altered by a simple majority of the body.
  - c. Members who are unable, in the judgment of the UA Executive Board, to do their shifts may be excused, with such conditions as the UA Executive Board may impose.
  - d. Each missed shift will account for half a Committee absence (0.5 absences) for the semester.
  - e. The number of committee meetings per semester used to calculate the total number of allowed committee meeting absences shall increase by the amount of the maximum number of absences possible to get through missing shifts.
  
5. Process of Removal
  - a. When a member is absent for either
    - i. 25% of the total number of committee meetings that semester (including airport shuttle shifts as above), or
    - ii. 35% of the total number of General Body meetings that semester,
  - b. The member will be removed from the UA for all purposes at the next UA General Body meeting occurring no sooner than one week after notification.
  - c. The UA Secretary must notify the member within 24 hours after the member is 1 or 1.5 absences (from either committee or general body meetings) away from reaching the absence limit, as well as when the member has reached the absence limit.
  - d. Any UA member who intends to miss more than the allotted GBM or committee meetings in a semester, and who has valid excuses for those expected absences (including but not limited to religious holiday observance) must meet with the Executive Board within the first two GBMs of his or her election to discuss these expected absences. Each case will be treated on an individual basis.

- e. In case of systemic religious or medical absences, a member may request a variable length exemption from the attendance policy for no longer than one semester. The Executive Board may approve or deny such requests.
  - f. Any time the Executive Board approve such a request, it is required to notify the UA General Body immediately. In the cases of medical absences, the Executive Board will not be required to divulge specific conditions affecting the member receiving the exemption. The General Body shall have the option to veto this approval with a simple majority vote at the next General Body meeting. If no vote is called for by any member of the General Body, the approval is automatically upheld.
6. Procedure for Contesting Removal
- a. A member wishing to contest their removal must submit a letter to the UA Secretary explaining the situation before the General Body meeting at which removal will be contested.
  - b. A member who does not contest their removal will be automatically and permanently removed from the UA.
  - c. If the removal is contested, a hearing will be held at the General Body meeting immediately after the letter has been received, and the member's letter will be read aloud, followed by a question and answer period.
  - d. The body can move the entire hearing into executive session, as per UA Constitution Article 19(a), with a two thirds majority vote following a motion to do so.
  - e. The member in dispute shall then leave the room, and the body will debate whether to provide the minimum forgiven absences needed to maintain membership on the UA.
7. Voting Procedure
- a. Removals shall be immediately repealed by a vote of 2/3 of those members present at the hearing. The removal vote must be taken at the meeting of the hearing.
  - b. The vote shall be conducted by secret ballot. Members may vote by absentee ballot if they so choose.
  - c. The vote is final and may not be reconsidered.
  - d. If the UA Secretary does not notify the entire body that the hearing will be on the agenda at least 48 hours before the hearing, the member in dispute has the right to postpone the hearing until after the entire body has been notified. This right must be exercised before the hearing begins.
8. All elected members and associate members of the UA shall be required to complete an educational programming session, as determined by the Speaker
- a. If a member has an immovable conflict at the established time for programming, it shall be the member's responsibility to coordinate an alternate time with the Speaker
9. This requirement shall be completed within the first two months of the fall semester or, in extenuating circumstances such as a special election or a later appointment, within one month of school after assuming office
- a. The Secretary shall notify a member when the member is two weeks away from missing this deadline
10. If a member fails to meet this requirement, they shall be removed according to the same procedure as the attendance policy above, save that only 40% of members present are required to

overturn this removal

### **Impeachment, Resignation and Replacement of Members**

11. A UA member may resign at any time in writing to the Speaker, at which point they shall be permanently removed from the UA.
12. All procedures pertaining to impeachment shall be provided for in the Standing Orders in these Bylaws.
13. After a UA member has been permanently removed from the body, the NEC will be notified no later than 24 hours after the removal. It shall be the duty of the Speaker to inform the person who shall accede to the vacated UA seat of their appointment.

### **Associate Members**

14. All full-time undergraduates at the University of Pennsylvania shall be eligible for associate membership of the Undergraduate Assembly.
15. The UA Speaker, in consultation with the Executive, shall appoint associate members of the Undergraduate Assembly, and shall, at the Speaker's discretion, set all minimum requirements for associate membership.
16. The Speaker shall be required to report on the addition and removal of any associate member of the UA at the first proceeding General Body Meeting.
17. Associate Members may, at the discretion of the UA Executive, represent the UA on a university-wide committee or board.
18. Associate Members shall, as unelected members of the body, not be eligible or vote for any internally elected position.

## **SECTION II: Officers**

### **Officers of the Undergraduate Assembly**

19. These shall be the Officers of the Undergraduate Assembly:
  - a. *A President*
  - b. *A Vice-President*
  - c. *A Speaker*
  - d. *A Treasurer*
  - e. *A Secretary*
20. The officers shall be elected in accordance with the UA Constitution.
  - a. The General Body at the Transition Meeting shall elect the Secretary with the other internally elected officers.
  - b. All procedures pertaining to the conduct of the Transition Meeting shall be provided for in the Standing Orders.

21. By the end of the first meeting held after their election the Speaker shall appoint, with the advice and consent of the UA, a Speaker Pro Tempore who shall assist the Speaker and chair meetings of the UA in the absence of the Speaker.

### **Powers and Responsibilities of the Executive Board**

22. The Executive shall be empowered to review the work of any of its members, including the President and Vice-President, and the members of committees including their directors or chairs.
23. All members of the Executive shall be invited to attend any meeting with any university administrator to which the President or Vice-President may be invited or may arrange, save only those meetings held in the context of University committees of which the President or Vice-President are members.
24. The Executive shall be quorate with the presence of a majority of officers and at least one of the President and Vice-President and one of the other Officers.
25. The Executive Board may meet at such times, in such places and by such means as it shall deem necessary and proper, provided that all officers are given due notice.
26. 26. The Executive Board shall ensure that among the President, Vice President, Speaker, and other undergraduates appointed to University Council by the NEC, all four undergraduate schools are represented on UC.

### **Powers and Responsibilities of the Officers**

27. In addition to their powers and responsibilities under the Constitution, the President shall:
  - a. Report weekly to the UA Governing Body on their activities and the state of the UA,
  - b. Deliver, at the middle point of their term, a State of the School Address,
  - c. Be a member *ex officio* of all UA committees,
  - d. Represent the UA on the Council of Philadelphia Student Governments as the Student Body President under the CPSG Charter.
28. These shall be the powers of the Speaker:
  - a. To chair meetings of the UA, and thus possess a strong working knowledge of the Standing Orders and Robert's Rules of Order,
  - b. To facilitate all UA internal business, serving as the link between UA members and the Executive,
  - c. To coordinate all UA committees and be a member *ex officio* of all UA committees,
  - d. To manage the associate member process,
  - e. To educate and nurture all UA members, inclusive of associate members, so as to ensure the highest quality of student activism in student government,
  - f. To transmit to the appropriate administrators, including a representative of the Office of the Provost, President, and Executive Vice-President, the text of all approved UA resolutions,

- g. To assist the President in the execution of the President and the UA's agenda,
- h. To keep the up-to-date and official copies of the Constitution and these Bylaws.

### **Filling Vacancies for elected officers**

- 29. Any officer may resign in writing to the UA and so be relieved of their position.
- 30. Officers who resign may remain a UA member, save the President and Vice-President who hold their seat by the virtue of their office and so shall forfeit it should they resign.
- 31. The vacancy of the President and Vice-President is provided for in the Constitution; in the case that internal election is required to replace them, such election shall be conducted according to the rules of the election of the Speaker and held within two weeks of the creation of the vacancy.
- 32. If an internally-elected Executive position becomes vacant, the seat shall be filled by the UA using the same procedure as the Transition Meeting, at a time established by the sitting Executive Board, but within two weeks of the vacancy.

### **SECTION III: Elections**

#### **Qualifications for Candidacy**

- 33. *In accordance with UA Const. s.18(a), the UA and the NEC determine requirements for candidacy for President and Vice-President by "joint regulation".*
- 34. *Under joint regulation, the UA and the NEC possess equal legislative initiative. The NEC maintains, under their own rules, a set of regulations identical in content to this Section. Either the UA or the NEC may approve changes to these regulations that shall subsequently be sent to the other authority for approval or disapproval. Only those changes approved by both bodies shall be valid; only then shall this Bylaw and the NEC's copy of the regulations be changed.*
- 35. To be eligible to run, a Presidential-candidate must submit a petition:
  - a. signed by 5% of the total number of undergraduate electors, *OR*
  - b. signed by 3% of the total number of undergraduate electors and at least 5 sitting members of the UA, including one member from a constituency other than that of the candidate.
- 36. To be eligible to run, a Vice-Presidential candidate must submit a petition:
  - a. signed by 5% of the total number of undergraduate electors, *OR*
  - b. signed by 3% of the total number of undergraduate electors and representatives of at least 5 sitting groups of UA Steering, who must file their signatures separately with the NEC.
- 37. All of the following provisions relating to the qualifications for candidacy herein contained shall expire on January 1, 2018.
- 38. The NEC shall certify the submission of petitions for the purpose of candidacy.

39. Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates may request an Executive Information Session (EIS).
  - a. The EIS, if requested, shall be held between the time petitions are released and the time they are due. The principal organizers should attempt as much as possible to accommodate all sincere candidates.
  - b. The EIS shall be run by the NEC, and include the Speaker, the President and the Vice-President if they shall not be candidates for an executive office. It shall include an exhaustive overview of the duties of the President and Vice-President, in law and in fact, and substantial opportunity for candidates to interact with members of student government.

### **Undergraduate Assembly Debates**

40. There shall be a Commission on Undergraduate Assembly Debates comprised of the NEC Chair, the NEC Vice-Chair for Elections, the NEC Vice Chair for Education and four other distinguished undergraduate leaders. The Vice-Chair for Education shall be the Chairperson of the Commission.
41. The Vice Chair for Education shall appoint the remaining members of the commission. The Vice-Chair for Education shall take care to ensure the Commission is appropriately balanced, representative, and neutral. Presidential and Vice Presidential candidates may not serve on the Commission. The appointments shall be made with the advice and consent of UA Steering and the UA
42. The Commission shall determine the format, scheduling, timing, location, topics, and all other matters pertaining to Undergraduate Assembly debates.
43. The NEC shall ensure the debates fulfill the following guidelines:
  - a. All debates shall be open to all undergraduates
  - b. All debates must be recorded and the recordings must be accessible to all eligible votes.
  - c. The Presidential candidates shall participate in a minimum of two debates, and the Vice-Presidential Candidates shall participate in a minimum of one debate, unless the Commission by unanimous vote determines that emergency or other major unforeseen circumstance requires that one or more debates be cancelled.
44. After the conclusion of the election cycle, the Commission shall prepare a report, which shall be delivered to UA Steering, reviewing the debate schedule and making suggestions for improvement.

### **Transition of Presidential and Vice-Presidential Offices**

45. Following the certification of their election by the NEC, the President-elect and Vice-President-elect shall meet with their predecessors and UA members to transition leadership between the old Executive and new.

46. During this transition period the incumbent President and Vice-President shall continue to exercise the duties of their office, but should do so with sensitivity to the policy preferences of their duly elected successors.

#### **SECTION IV: Meetings**

47. The Undergraduate Assembly may not meet without at least 24 hours notice to all members, Associate members, and the Steering Committee by email.
48. The Executive Board shall schedule the dates and times of all regular UA General Body meetings in Fall within the first two weeks of Fall Semester, and all UA General Body meetings in Spring within two weeks of the conclusion of the Fall elections cycle. No regular meeting shall be scheduled when classes are in session during the Fall or Spring semesters, save by a vote of the UA.
49. Emergency UA General Body meetings may be called at any time by such means authorized under the Constitution, provided that at least 24 hours notice is given (as above). These meetings shall not count towards the UA absence policy in these Bylaws.

#### **SECTION V: Appointment and Conduct of Student Representatives**

##### **Special Status of this Section**

50. It is the interpretation of the Undergraduate Assembly that Article 9 of the Statutes of the Trustees vests exclusively within its competency the authority to appoint all undergraduate representatives on all policy-making university committees.
51. In accordance with UA Const. s.23(a), the UA and the NEC determine who shall appoint representatives to all university committees by “joint regulation”.
52. Under joint regulation, the UA and the NEC possess equal legislative initiative. The NEC maintains, under their own rules, a set of regulations identical in content to this Bylaw. Either the UA or the NEC may approve changes to these regulations that shall subsequently be sent to the other authority for approval or disapproval. Only those changes approved by both bodies shall be valid; only then shall this Bylaw and the NEC’s copy of the regulations be changed.
53. These regulations shall extend only to the authorities responsible for appointing the representatives. Each authority may at its discretion make such rules or take such actions as they deem appropriate to dispose of the seats granted to them.
54. The University or its officials may request that any undergraduate organization fill undergraduate seats on a university committee. Unless these joint regulations otherwise provide, the organization requested by the University to provide representatives shall be permitted to do so.

##### **Appointment of Student Representatives**

55. Student representatives on University committees shall be appointed by the following authorities,

or vested in certain officers *ex officio*, in the following cases:

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Appointed by</b>
Trustee Committee on Academic Policy	UA
Trustee Committee on Budget and Finance	UA
Trustee Committee on External Affairs	NEC
Trustee Committee on Facilities and Campus Planning	UA
Trustee Committee on Neighborhood Initiatives	NEC
Trustee Committee on Student Life	UA: the President shall hold this seat.
UC Committee on Academic and Related Affairs (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) SCUE
UC Committee on Campus and Community Life (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) UA
UC Committee on Facilities (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) UA
UC Committee on Diversity and Equity (2 seats)	(2) NEC
UC Committee on Open Expression (3 seats)	(2) NEC, (1) UA
UC Committee on Committees (1 seat)	NEC
UC Committee on Honorary Degrees (2 seats)	NEC
UC Steering Committee and full Council (2 seats)	UA: the President and Vice-President shall seats on UC and UC Steering.
Social Responsibility Advisory Committee (2 seats)	(1) UA, (1) NEC
Provost Academic Planning and Budget Committee (1 seat)	NEC
SAS Curriculum Committee (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) SCUE
SAS Undergraduate Education (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) UA
SAS Humanities and Social Science Panel (1 seat)	NEC
SAS Natural Sciences and Mathematics Panel (1 seat)	NEC
SAS Quantitative Data Analysis Requirement Committee (1 seat)	NEC
Alcohol and Other Drug Task Force (3 seats)	(2) NEC, (1) UA
Fraternity and Sorority Advisory Board (1 seat)	NEC
Lindback Awards Committee (2 seats)	(2) NEC
OSA Student Awards Committee (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) UA
Student Health Insurance Advisory Committee (2 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) UA
Committee on Manufacturing Responsibility (1 seat)	UA
Council of Undergraduate Deans (2 seats)	The UA President and SCUE Chair shall hold these seats.
Library Advisory Board (4 seats)	(1) NEC, (1) SCUE, (2) UA

### **Conduct of Appointed Representatives**

56. There are 16 undergraduate representatives on the University Council: the President, the Vice President, the United Minorities Council representative and 13 additional undergraduate representatives. The UA's seats will be allocated in the following manner:

- a. The UA Speaker holds one UC seat.

- b. The NEC will be granted 12 of the UA's University Council seats, which they will assign to representatives of mis- or under-represented constituencies.
  - c. The NEC is responsible for ensuring that all four undergraduate schools are represented in their appointments. It is the responsibility of the UA Observer on the NEC to ensure that all four schools are represented in the NEC's seat allocation process. The UA observer's duties are outlined in the NEC's Procedure for the Allocation of University Council seats.
  - d. If the NEC fails to represent the four undergraduate schools in their appointments, they will request the UA to appoint UA representatives to fill the necessary number of seats to ensure that all four undergraduate schools are represented in UC.
  - e. All seats allocated to the UA by the NEC to ensure four-schools-representation shall be filled by elected UA members selected by the Executive Board by the first or second meeting after the transition meeting.
  - f. If the NEC is considering a candidate for a UC seat who would represent a constituency consisting solely of all undergraduates in one of the four undergraduate schools and the NEC determines through its process that this student deserves a seat on the UC to represent their constituency, the UA shall have the right to put forth an elected UA member to represent this constituency instead.
56. The undergraduate liaisons to the Trustee Standing Committees are ex-officio members of the Undergraduate Assembly, non-voting unless they are also elected representatives. They are responsible for submitting reports of their committee's deliberations to the UA Executive Board on a regular basis. They are also responsible for submitting the position of the UA as that of the student government.
57. The NEC shall establish and enforce an attendance policy for all representatives, with appropriate sanctions for non-attendance.
58. The UA Executive Board shall have the right to remove representatives appointed by the Executive Board if the representative fails to attend what the Executive Board deems a sufficient number of meetings

## **SECTION VI: Conflicts of Interest and Commercial Endorsement**

### **Definitions**

59. A "not-for-profit corporation" is any incorporated entity recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible charity.  
All Penn student groups recognized by the Office of Student Affairs are "Penn-affiliated organizations" and do not possess a corporate identity separate from the University, which is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. For-profit entities that fall under the University or are subcontracted thereby, for example the Penn Bookstore and Penn Dining, are Penn affiliates and are not considered for-profit entities for the purposes of this policy.
60. All other corporations and non-incorporated entities are considered "for-profit entities." A for-profit concern that offers a product to the University or its students free of charge is still here defined as a for-profit concern.

61. All for-profit companies or concerns, including but not limited to for-profit companies or concerns exclusively operated by faculty, staff, undergraduates, graduates and professional students, or alumni of the University, are here not considered affiliated with the University.
62. The “Penn administration” is all Trustees, officers, and employees of the University of Pennsylvania, broadly defined. This definition is exclusive of full-time undergraduate students.
63. A “financial or governance interest” is held by a person who has, directly or indirectly, through business, investment, or family a potential or real ownership or investment interest in that entity, or a compensation arrangement with that entity.
64. A “promotion” is defined as the use of UA channels of communication to support a product, service or entity. An "endorsement" is an affirmative statement of support for a product, service or entity. The UA’s internal usage of a service or product does not constitute “endorsement” or “promotion.”
65. In this section, a “UA Member” is inclusive of the UA President and Vice-President, as well as all elected Members and any undergraduate student acting on behalf of the Undergraduate Assembly.

#### **Responsibilities of UA Members**

66. No UA member may propose or vote on a UA resolution or a procedural motion to the advantage or disadvantage of a for-profit entity in which he or she has a financial or governance interest.
67. No UA member may, while intentionally acting in the official capacity as a UA member, lobby the Penn Administration to the advantage or disadvantage of a for-profit entity in which he or she has a financial or governance interest.
68. Members are obliged to disclose their interests in for-profit entities to the UA Executive Board as those interests arise. It shall be the duty of the UA in the final case to determine whether a member must abstain from a vote on a UA resolution, or from lobbying the Penn Administration, owing to a financial or governance interest in a for-profit entity.
69. Nothing in this policy shall be so construed as to prevent members from acting, outside of their official capacity as UA members, to promote and support any kind of corporation as they see fit.

#### **Responsibilities of the UA**

70. Neither the UA nor members of the UA, while intentionally acting in their official capacity, shall promote nor endorse any for-profit entity without a resolution approved by the UA.
71. The UA may establish services for the student body in partnership with external entities as it thinks fit, provided:
  - a. Code that is “open source” may be used in UA services, and if necessary shared with others under the terms of that code’s open source license,
  - b. The UA shall retain exclusive ownership over the service provided, such that the service

- can be withdrawn on the sole initiative of the UA.
- c. It complies with all relevant policies of the University of Pennsylvania.
- d. It is approved by the UA through a resolution.

### **Student Privacy**

- 72. The UA will not endorse any non-Penn-affiliated entity that collects marketable student identification (including, but not exclusive to student e-mail addresses, PennID numbers, or telephone numbers.)

## **SECTION VII: Intergovernmental Relations**

### **Membership in the Council of Philadelphia Student Governments**

- 73. The Undergraduate Assembly is a member of the Council of Philadelphia Student Governments (CPSG) and has ratified the Charter of the Council insofar as it does not conflict with these Bylaws, the Constitution of the Assembly, or relevant University regulations.
- 74. The UA President is the “student body president” of the UA for the purposes of the Charter. The Undergraduate Assembly Governing Body is the “legislative council” of the UA for the purposes of the Charter.
- 75. The UA Body shall elect one of its members to be the CPSG Representative under internal election procedures. If the CPSG Representative shall step down, they shall be replaced by election at the next Body meeting.
- 76. If the UA President shall hold the Chair of the Council, the UA Vice-President shall hold the UA President’s representative seat.
- 77. It shall be the responsibility of the CPSG Representative to represent the views of the UA Governing Body and to keep the Body informed as to the actions of CPSG, and CPSG informed as to the actions of the UA.

## **SECTION VIII: Finance**

- 78. The Budget and Finance Committee shall consist *of the Treasurer* and two UA members elected at the first or second UA meeting immediately following the Transition Meeting.
- 79. No UA monies shall be spent, save by appropriations made by the UA in accordance with these Bylaws.
- 80. There are two kinds of financial business transacted by the UA: contingency requests and the Annual Budget.
  - a. The UA shall have a Contingency Fund, to which each year shall be added a minimum of .5% of the total amount allocated to the UA in that year.
  - b. The Contingency Fund will retain all unspent funds from year to year, except when the

UA votes otherwise.

81. The Speaker shall preside over all contingency requests and the Annual Budget meeting.
82. The procedure for determining Contingency Requests is as follows:
  - a. Any Penn-affiliated organization, including the UA, may request funding from this Contingency Fund during the academic year.
  - b. The Contingency Fund is a fund of last resort; no request shall be granted which does not convincingly demonstrate that all practical funding alternatives have been exhausted. SAC-recognized groups in particular must approach SAC for funds before submitting a Contingency Request.
  - c. All requests shall be submitted on behalf of that organization to the UA Budget Committee, following whatever guidelines the Budget Committee establishes for the form and detail of the request.
  - d. The Budget Committee shall review the request in a timely fashion and report their recommendation as a resolution to the UA General Body at their next meeting, unless in the Committee's judgment the request is an emergency, in which case they shall present it to the UA Executive Board for immediate approval or disapproval.
  - e. All contingency requests regarding funds that will be spent on internal operations of the Undergraduate Assembly shall be made by the Speaker Pro Tempore and submitted, in completion, to the Budget Committee in a timely fashion of no less than 48 hours prior to the next UA General Body Meeting, where it will be considered. Should this standard not be met, the Contingency Request must be considered at the next regularly scheduled UA General Body Meeting. No internal contingency request may be considered an emergency request during the contingency process.
  - f. The General Body shall consider the Budget Committee's recommendation as if it were an ordinary resolution, save that amendments require the vote of 60% of the members present to be approved.
  - g. Approval of the request automatically and irrevocably transfers the specified funds to the Penn account of the organization in question.
  - h. The UA will be considered a "co-sponsor" of any event for which it provides contingency funds, and accordingly the UA's name and logo shall appear on all publicity materials.
  - i. The Budget Committee shall be responsible for maintaining the Contingency Fund. The Budget Committee shall accordingly keep track of the date of each contingency vote, the outcome of the vote, the amount of money granted, the group(s) receiving funding, the event(s) receiving funding, and the amount of contingency funds remaining. This information will be readily available and updated for the public's viewing on the UA website and moved into UA archives at the end of every UA session.
83. The procedure for determining the Annual Budget is as follows:
  - a. The Budget Committee shall meet with each branch of student government during the second half of the Fall Semester and beginning of the Spring Semester and review their finances and activities prior to producing a recommended budget for the UA General Body.
  - b. The Executive shall set a series of three particular meetings as the Budget Meetings, comprising the official "budget season." The final of these meetings shall ordinarily be the UA meeting held immediately before Spring Break. The Budget Committee shall

*submit their final recommended budget no later than 24 hours before the first budget meeting.*

- c. The UA many consider the budget only through a series of three meetings: the “budget season.”
    - i. In the first of these meetings, the Budget Committee and the chief financial officer of each branch (or designate) shall present the Budget to the full UA in detail, with unrestricted time for questions. This budget is to be published 24 hours in advance of this meeting, sent out alongside the UA GBM agenda. The Budget presented at this meeting shall be, in all regards, identical to the budget considered by the UA throughout the budget season.
    - ii. At the second meeting the UA shall entertain amendments to the annual budget. Questions regarding the general budget should have been asked the week before. The UA will go directly into debate on each budget without special time reserved for questions. During debate, the UA will entertain amendments related to single branch specific changes first. Next, debate will follow into the General Discussion, when amendments can be debated between any two or more branches. Amendments will be considered through the process prescribed in these bylaws. Debate during this meeting can only close by a two-thirds vote of members present agreeing to end amendment debate. Any UA member can call for the end of debate.
    - iii. During the third meeting, the final vote on the budget, the budget must be passed by a simple majority of members present. A majority of total members can decide to entertain amendments during this meeting if they agree the enough new information has arisen to constitute an emergency situation. If this vote passes, the amendment is considered in the typical way for Budget Amendments described in these bylaws.
  - d. The Budget Meeting proper shall be run according to the Standing Orders, below.
84. Retroactive amendments to the Annual Budget shall only be made to monies specifically allocated to the UA.
85. The UA will automatically “roll over” all money earned as profit (ie. from the UA shuttle services) in one year to the next year’s operations budget (accounted for as profit). However, if Exec deems it appropriate and necessary to reallocate the funds, then that will be under their purview to do so.
86. The UA will automatically “roll over” all money it does not spend from one year’s Contingency Fund to the next year’s Contingency Fund with the following restriction:
- a. If the Contingency Fund exceeds \$50,000, it will be the responsibility of the Budget Committee to meet and discuss the merits of transferring a percentage of the Fund to SAC. If the Budget Committee agrees that moneys exceeding \$50,000 should be transferred to SAC, the Committee will make a presentation to the UA general body. The general body will vote to retain the funds as they stand in the Contingency Fund or uphold the Budget Committee’s recommendation of transferring a certain percentage to SAC. A majority of 60% (sixty percent) would be needed to vote in favor of transferring the funds in order for this vote to pass.

87. There shall be a Funding Steering Assembly (FSA) which shall be responsible for facilitating constructive communication between all student-run funding sources on campus and for coordinating a cohesive timeline for student group funding request applications.
  - a. FSA shall under normal circumstances be chaired by the UA Treasurer and shall meet at least three times in the Treasurer's term of office.
  - b. Membership on the FSA shall, with the advice and consent of the UA, be determined by the UA Treasurer within the first two GBM's after the Transition Meeting. Throughout the year, membership status on this Assembly may be altered by the UA Executive, which shall be announced at the subsequent UA GBM and overturned at any point by UA Resolution.

## **SECTION IX: Standing Orders (The Budget Season)**

### **Authority**

88. No part of this Bylaw shall be so construed as to extend to anything outside of a general meeting. A motion to suspend the rules may suspend any or all of the contents of this Bylaw.
89. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the parliamentary authority for all matters not specifically addressed in the Constitution or the Bylaws.
90. The Speaker or Speaker Pro Tempore shall interpret all parts of this Bylaw, but any ruling made by the Speaker or Speaker Pro Tempore may be overturned by a simple majority of the UA.
91. The use of the word "members" in these Orders refers to duly elected Members of the UA. The words "persons" are inclusive of all members of the Penn Community. The word "Speaker" shall encompass the Speaker and the Speaker Pro Tempore when they exercise the position of Speaker.

### **Bringing Business Before the UA**

92. All original main motions are motions to enact a document, with the exception of:
  - a. Motions to Consider a Document, as provided for below,
  - b. Motions concerning the meeting itself, including recess and adjournment,
  - c. Motions to Reconsider,
  - d. Motions to modify or otherwise affect a document currently under consideration.
93. Any other motions must be incorporated into a document and shall be approved with the enactment of the document.
94. No motions to enact a document shall be entertained by the UA except:
  - a. With the approval of the President or the UA Steering Committee, as pursuant to their

power to establish charges for the UA,

- b. With the approval by the UA of a Motion to Consider a Document, by a simple majority, in a meeting at least six full days before the meeting at which the document will be entertained,
  - c. By a suspension of the rules.
95. The Motion to Consider a Document is a special main motion that must be made at the end of New Business in the following manner:
- a. Before the close of New Business, the Speaker must inquire as to whether there are “any Motions to Consider a Document.”
  - b. This motion is made by any member, must be seconded, and is debatable like any main motion. Debate on this motion shall be limited to whether or not the document should be entertained, and not on the merits of the document itself.
  - c. The motion cannot be amended.
  - d. The motion must be accompanied by a presentation of the document proper for inspection by the UA.
  - e. The motion passes with a simple majority of members present in favor. Should the motion pass, that document will be considered at the next meeting held at least six days later in exactly the form it was presented in the Motion to Consider.

### **The Orders of the Day**

96. All regularly stated meetings of the UA shall include an Open Forum, Old Business and New Business. All meetings shall commence with a Roll Call.
97. The President shall otherwise set the agenda of the UA, and establish time limits for other parts of the meeting as the President sees fit, although the UA may overturn such establishments by a majority vote.
98. Each UA general body meeting will have a ten minute Open Forum, conducted in the following way:
- a. Non-UA members will have priority during the Open Forum sessions.
    - i. The Speaker will recognize non-UA members at the start of each open forum session.
    - ii. Before recognizing UA members, the Speaker will ask non-UA members for any additional comments.
    - iii. After the Speaker begins recognizing UA members, any non-UA member will be given priority if he/she has an additional comment or topic for discussion.
  - b. Open Forum sessions will be organized into discussions of particular issues that are brought up by any person wishing to speak.
    - i. UA members can add topics to be discussed during the open forum session by

- submitting the request directly to the Speaker.
  - ii. The Speaker will recognize each topic to be discussed in order of their submission. After an initial comment, the chair will recognize any follow-up comments directly concerning the issue before moving on to the next topic.
  - iii. Any person may submit an additional topic throughout the open forum session, although it will receive lower priority than pre-submitted issues.
99. All motions on the table shall be taken from the table and placed before the UA during Old Business.
100. At the close of the UA meeting there shall be Communications from each person in turn, without time limits.
101. The final meeting of each session shall be the Communications Meeting. At this meeting, there shall be no new business and each person shall give a communication to the body in a sequence determined by the Speaker.

### **Consideration of a Document**

102. The UA considers each document in the following way:
- a. Three (3) minutes for the proposer(s) to present the document (in the case of budget requests, five (5) minutes for the proposer(s) to present the budget request, and five (5) minutes for the budget committee to present its rationale),
  - b. Five (5) minutes for question and answer,
  - c. Debate, with speakers alternating pro and con.
    - i. Questions may also be asked during this time, and do not contribute to the total time for debate.
    - ii. Any person may speak multiple times on the same motion.
    - iii. No speech shall exceed three (3) minutes in length, save by a motion to extend time or the discretion of the Speaker.
    - iv. If there are no speakers for any one side of the debate, the debate shall become general discussion, with the order of speakers at the discretion of the Speaker.
    - v. Debate ends only upon the expiry of time under a Motion to Limit Debate, the passage of the motion to previous question (or other motions which cut off debate), or the exhaustion of debate.
  - d. Voting procedure.
103. Two-thirds of the UA may set a maximum time for each speaker (shorter than 3 minutes), a maximum time for debate, the total number of speakers, or any combination thereof, by approving Motion to Limit Debate.
104. A simple majority may, with the passage of a incidental Motion to Extend Debate, overturn the three (3) minute time limit, either in an individual case or generally, and/or any limitation established by a Motion to Limit Debate.

105. The Speaker shall assign the floor to persons in debate, alternating between pro and con as much as practicable. All persons shall have an equal right to speak, save that the President and Vice-President shall be granted preference (in that order) all other things being equal, and, despite the remainder of this clause, the Speaker shall give preference to those persons who have not spoken at all on the motion.
106. Persons ask questions (no distinction is made between Points of Information and Parliamentary Inquiry, and both are handled in this Order), both in debate and in the question and answer session, by raising their Inquiry Placard. All questions are fielded before the next person speaks on the motion. Questions should always be phrased through the Speaker, are short and to the point, and must be on a point of fact.
107. Anyone, immediately upon being assigned the floor, may yield the floor and their remaining time to anyone else. All yielding takes place at the absolute discretion of the persons in question.
108. Amendments to a document moved during its discussion are submitted in writing to the Secretary at any time during its consideration. All amendments must include the text that would be changed by the amendment, and the text their amendment consists of. The Speaker shall entertain the amendments so submitted in the order of most destructive to least destructive, the order in which they have been received, or such order as they deem appropriate. Immediately prior to entertaining any motion to previous question on the document, the Speaker shall read out all pending amendments in full.
109. When the Speaker entertains an amendment, it shall be read in its entirety. Following this, the proposer of the document shall be asked if the amendment is friendly or not.
110. If the proposer indicates that the amendment is friendly, it is adopted unless two members of the UA object.
111. If only one member objects, they may at the discretion of the Speaker speak for a brief period outlining his objection. If following this speech there is no second objection, the amendment shall be adopted as above.
112. If the proposer indicates that the amendment is unfriendly, or two or more members of the UA object to the friendly amendment, then the proposer may withdraw their amendment unilaterally. If the proposer chooses not to (i.e. they “make the amendment unfriendly”), the amendment shall be considered normally.
113. Debate on amendments shall proceed in the same way as debate on the main motion, modified as follows:
  - a. 2 minutes for the proposer to present their amendment,
  - b. 3 minutes for question and answer,
  - c. Debate, as for a document.
114. Prior to moving to voting procedure on any amendment, the Speaker shall read the amendment,

and the relevant part of the document as it would read amended and unamended.

115. Amendments may not be tabled after previous question is called on the document that is sought to be amended. Should there be amendments on the table when the previous question is moved, the amendments will lapse. All motions to amend a motion previously passed are original main motions and must be moved in a document.
116. All incidental, subsidiary or privileged motions are made by raising placards, or orally as appropriate. If two or more members raise their Previous Question placard, the motion to move to previous question will be considered at the termination of the current speech.
117. No motion for previous question may be entertained before at least one pro and one con speech (or two speeches if either the pro or con side has no speakers).
118. Votes on all main motions and all amendments shall be done by roll call. Votes on all procedural matters shall be done a show of hands or, on objection by at least one member, by roll call.
119. In all cases under Robert's Rules where a "majority of the entire membership" voting in favor is required for a motion to pass, the votes of two thirds of the entire membership in favor shall be required for passage instead.
120. The results of any vote shall be determined by a comparison of the number of pro votes against the number of con votes. Members have the right to abstain on any vote.
121. If the votes pro or con on the question constitute a majority of the members voting and an absolute majority of quorum, the question shall be resolved in the usual fashion. In all other circumstances when the combined number of pro and con votes is fewer than quorum, the question will be laid on the table.

### **The Budget Meeting**

122. The UA will discuss one student government budget at a time, in the following order:
  - a. SCUE
  - b. NEC
  - c. SPEC
  - d. UA (including Pre-Orientation Programs and expenses not otherwise accounted for)
    - i. Student groups funded directly by the UA will be subject to the procedures outlined in subsequent Articles 123 and 124 of the Budget Meeting Bylaws. These groups will present in alphabetical order.
  - e. Class Boards
  - f. After discussion and presentation of the aforementioned groups' allocations, the UA Treasurer will present any additional budget details that are not a part of any of the aforementioned groups' budgets. The Treasurer will have 2 minutes to present and then there will be 5 minutes of Q&A. This procedure will be followed at both the first and second budget meetings. The allocations discussed during this time are subjected to the same rules as the allocations to PSG branches and non-PSG UA-funded student groups, with the exception that there may not be a CEO or other designate representing the

groups receiving this funding. If the UA funds New Student Orientation or Pre-Orientation Programs they will be discussed during this time allotment.

123. Before discussion and presentation of the budget at the first meeting of the budget season, SAC will present its opinion of the overall budget for 2 minutes and have 5 minutes of Q/A (questions and answers each capped at 30 seconds).
124. At the beginning of discussion for each branch, the UA Treasurer will be given 2 minutes to present the budget committee's rationale for that branch's budget. During the first meeting, the Chief Executive Officer (or designate) of the branch will be given five minutes to present their budget and their opinion on the allocation, alongside any potential issues they may have with the allocation that could lead to discussing and potential amendments. During this meeting questions relating to the line items of branches shall be entertained. During the second meeting, following a 2 minute presentation on Budget Committee's rationale for that branch's budget, the Chief Executive Officer (or designate) of the branch will be given two minutes, focusing on updates since the last meeting or suggested changes negotiated during the previous week.
  - a. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall, on behalf of the Speakership, be considered the "Chief Executive Officer" for the UA's internal budget, and shall, for the purposes of the Annual Budget, present and advocate as such
125. During the second meeting of the budget season, debate commences on each of the branch's budgets. All speeches are limited to 1 minute. Following this, debate commences to the General Discussion. At these times, members may offer amendments to particular line items, first relating to each branch's internal budget, followed by amendments between branches during the General Discussion.
126. A budget amendment must:
  - a. Direct its main force or effect at the budget under discussion; amendments which ultimately affect another budget more than the one being discussed shall be deferred until that budget is discussed, or to General Discussion if that budget's debate has been closed. At a minimum, at least one line-item in the budget under discussion must be amended.
  - b. Specify, in specific dollar amounts, where the money will go and where it will come from. The budget is a set sum; changes to one part of the budget necessitate changes elsewhere.
  - c. Be co-sponsored by at least one UA member in addition to the proposer.
  - d. Obey all the usual rules of amendments.
127. Line item amendment discussions will be handled as follows:
  - a. The Speaker shall arrange amendments in order from most to least destructive, and may arrange for multiple amendments affecting one line item to be debated and voted on at once if doing so will facilitate debate.

- b. The proposer(s) of the amendment will be given 1 minute to explain the amendment, followed by 3 minutes of Q&A (questions and answers capped at 30 seconds each).
  - c. The Budget Committee will then be permitted a 1 minute response.
  - d. The UA will then begin debate on the amendment, speech times capped to 1 minute. There is no such thing as a “friendly amendment” to the Budget.
  - e. After debate is closed (in the usual way), the amendment(s) will be voted on as follows:
    - i. If there is only one amendment to be voted on, it shall require the affirmative votes of 60% of members present to be approved.
    - ii. If there are multiple amendments being voted on, the Body will vote on each amendment in order of most destructive to least destructive; the first amendment to obtain a 60% majority will be approved and all others discarded. Should no amendment attain a 60% majority, all amendments in the sequence will be discarded.
128. The UA will progress to the next budget when debate has been exhausted on the current budget, or when a motion to close debate has been approved by two-thirds of the UA members present.
129. At the end of discussion of all branches, SAC will be given 2 minutes (with 3 minutes of Q&A) to make a statement on the revised budget.
130. Following SAC’s statement, the UA will enter into a discussion of the budget as a whole (“General Discussion”). At this time, any amendment to any part of the budget may be entertained.
131. Motions to reconsider a specific amendment may be entertained only during General Discussion.
132. During General Discussion, the Previous Question may be called on the whole budget. A 2/3 majority of the membership of the UA present must vote in favor of the Budget to move the budget to the third, approval meeting.
133. During all budget discussion, and only during the all budget discussion, non-members must be yielded time to speak by a UA member in order to participate in debate. The clock will continue to run during that time as though the UA member had continued to speak. This rule shall not apply to the Chief Executive Officers (or a single designate) of the branch whose budget is under discussion (General Discussion shall not be considered a discussion of any single branch’s budget). This rule also does not apply to the any of the Chief Executive Officers (or a single designate) of a branch whose budget is currently being discussed in the form of an amendment. The SAC Chairperson (or designate) shall also be afforded the speaking rights of members.

**The Transition Meeting**

134. The session of the Undergraduate Assembly shall expire upon the convention of the Transition meeting, and the session of the next UA shall then begin.

135. The agenda of the Transition Meeting shall be as follows:
  - a. Call to Order by the incumbent NEC Chairperson, who shall be the Chair of the Transition Meeting;
  - b. A State of the UA Address delivered by the outgoing President,
  - c. An Inaugural Address delivered by the Incoming President;
  - d. Description of the Roles of UA Officers (as below)
  - e. The Election of the UA Officers (as below);
  - f. Appropriate transitional exercises;
  - g. Adjournment.
136. The President and Vice-President shall take office at the conclusion of the Inaugural Address and may participate in the meeting (save, in accordance with the Constitution, running for a position),
137. The officers elected at the Transition Meeting shall be the Speaker, the Treasurer, and the Secretary.
138. Prior to nominations, all members of the incumbent Executive shall have four minutes explain to the duties of their position to the newly elected UA body, followed by a ten minute question and answer period.
139. Prior to the election of each position, the floor will be open to nominations. Nominations must be accepted by the nominee, and no seconder to a nomination is required. Self-nominations are acceptable.
140. Following nominations, each candidate shall give a speech in the order of their nomination and answer questions from the UA and the general public within the following time limits:
  - a. Speaker: 5 minute speeches, 20 minutes of Question and Answer from UA, 20 minutes of Q&A from general public, answer time for each question is 1 min per candidate.
  - b. Treasurer and Secretary: 4 min speeches, 20 Q&A from UA, 20 Q&A from general public, answer time is 1 min.
141. Questions shall be answered by each candidate in turn. The Chair of the Transition meeting shall alternate the order in which the candidates field questions. The first candidate fielding any given question shall be given 30 seconds for a response after the last candidate has fielded the question.
142. A simple majority of the UA may extend the general public question and answer time.
143. Following the conclusion of the question and answer time, the Chair may entertain a motion to Descend into Executive Session. Should the motion be approved by a majority, the UA shall enter an executive session for deliberations.
144. The deliberations shall be conducted according to procedures established within the session, but the Chair of the NEC may moderate discussion and shall supply documentation on past deliberation session practices for UA's reference. No motions may be considered in executive session save a Motion to Ascend from Deliberations, which must be approved by a two-thirds

majority of those UA members present.

145. Following the conclusion of deliberations, or of question and answer (whichever happens last), the UA shall vote by secret ballot to elect one of the candidates. If only one candidate is running for the position, any member may move to elect the candidate by acclamation.
146. The candidate elected shall be the candidate with the votes of an absolute majority of UA members in office. Should no candidate receive the requisite number of votes and there shall be more than two candidates, the candidate with the lowest vote total shall be discarded and the UA shall reballot, continuing in such a fashion until a candidate is elected. But the UA may, if there are two candidates who do not receive an absolute majority of votes, return to deliberations.

#### **Other internal elections**

147. Such other positions as the UA shall deem appropriate to be elected from its membership shall be filled during a quorate meeting according to the procedure in this Article.
148. All elections shall be announced at a meeting at least six days prior to the meeting at which the election shall be held. This announcement shall include a description of the position under election, the criteria for holding the position, and at least five minutes for questions to previous holders of the position, if any.
149. No officer of the UA shall be elected to a secondary internal office.
150. At the meeting at which the election shall be held, the election shall be considered an item of new business.
151. Prior to the election of each position, the floor will be open to nominations. Nominations must be accepted by the nominee, and no seconder to a nomination is required. Self-nominations are acceptable.
152. Following nominations, each candidate shall give a speech in the order of their nomination for no longer than 3 minutes and answer questions from the UA and the general public for no longer than 10 minutes (1 minute answer times). In the ordering of questions, members of the UA shall be given priority.
153. A simple majority of the UA may extend the question and answer time.
154. Following the conclusion of question and answer, the UA shall vote by secret ballot to elect one or more of the candidates as appropriate, each member casting one vote per position. If there are an equal number of candidates to positions (or fewer candidates than there are position), any member may move to elect the candidate(s) by acclamation.
155. The candidate(s) elected shall be the candidate(s) with a plurality of votes cast; save that if there are more than three candidates for a given position the votes shall be cast by the optional preferential method, where each voter numbers the candidates in order of preference. Then, all the first preference votes are counted, and the candidate with the least number of first preference votes is discarded. The second preferences indicated on the ballots of that candidate are then considered as first preferences and redistributed accordingly, continuing in this fashion until a

candidate has a majority of votes.

156. If quorum is not present, or the combined total of votes for candidates is less than a majority of members present, then the position shall be declared vacant and elected at a future meeting according to the procedure in Article VI. An abstention is not a vote for a candidate.

### **Impeachments**

157. Any UA member, including the President, Vice-President, or any Executive officer, may be impeached for misconduct or incompetence, by written charges preferred by at least one-third of the total number of UA members or five percent of the undergraduate population.
158. This indictment shall be presented to the NEC, who shall determine the petition's legitimacy in accordance with such procedures as the NEC shall establish. The petition shall clearly state, if it impeaches an officer, whether it requests the removal of the person from office or from the UA entirely. A President or Vice-President who is removed from their position automatically forfeits their seat on the UA.
159. Upon impeachment of a member or officer, a trial to determine guilt shall be held not less than one, or more than three weeks subsequent to the impeachment. The date of the trial shall be fixed by the NEC.
160. If the impeached member is an Executive Officer they shall be suspended from their office. Interim replacements are determined as follows:
- a. In the case of impeachment of the President, the Vice-President shall serve as Interim President.
  - b. In the case of the simultaneous impeachment of President and Vice-President, the Speaker shall serve as Interim President.
  - c. If the President, Vice-President, and Speaker shall be simultaneously impeached, the NEC shall convene an emergency meeting of the UA to elect by the procedure established for the election of non-Executive Officers an undergraduate to serve as interim President.
  - d. In the case of the impeachment of any other officer, the President or Interim President shall with the advice and consent of those unimpeached members of the Executive Board appoint an Interim replacement.
161. The signatories of the petition of impeachment, or such persons as the petition shall nominate, shall appoint a prosecutor, who shall be a currently enrolled undergraduate. The accused shall be allowed to choose a defense counsel as he or she may think proper, provided that the defense counsel be a currently enrolled undergraduate. The prosecutor and defense counsel may have advisors present at the trial, but only the prosecutor and defense counsel may make arguments and cross-examine the witnesses.
162. No trial shall be held without at least one week's public notice. It shall be treated as an emergency UA Meeting for the purpose of the UA attendance policy. The Chair of the trial shall be the NEC Chairperson or designate. This person, hereafter referred to as "the Chair", shall have final discretion over the interpretation of all the rules pertaining to the trial subject to the review of a majority of the UA.

163. The form of the trial shall be as follows:

- a. The charge or charges shall first be read by the Chair.
  - b. After the charges are read, the prosecutor and defense counsel may present opening and closing remarks, and also call and cross-examine witnesses in accordance with the customs of the courts of justice. The impeached member shall be considered innocent of each charge until proven guilty by a preponderance of the evidence.
  - c. The UA shall, following this presentation's conclusion (by an expiry of time or a vote to close the presentation approved by two-thirds) descend into a private deliberations session at which only unimpeached UA members and the Chair may be present. It may ascend from this session only by a two-thirds vote.
  - d. Following the conclusion of deliberations, the UA shall vote on each charge by a recorded vote.
164. Should two-thirds of the UA vote in favor of sustaining the charge made by the impeachment, the result specified in the petition of impeachment (whether removal from office or from the UA) shall take place immediately. There is no appeal. Vacancies generated by the sustainment of the charge shall be filled in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws.