

Rationale:

The Bylaws specifically state plurality vote for the positions of Chair-Elect of the University Faculty, Secretary, At-Large Senators and Representatives to the Board of Trustees. Elections of Senators are governed by the rules of that unit. However, nothing is said about Committee elections. Lacking any rule, Robert's Rules of Order are followed. Robert's Rules of Order specifically require a majority vote unless the Bylaws allow plurality. Using a majority vote requires the election to be repeated until someone obtains a majority. This makes electronic voting almost impossible and consumes an inordinate amount of time when paper ballots are used. The change is requested to put committee elections in line with University elections and to make the use of electronic ballots possible for committee elections.

Other Sections Impacted:

Article III, Section 4,a,i states that elections of Faculty to University Committees are covered by the same rules as Senate Standing Committees (Article III, Section 3). Thus, if the proposed change to Article III, Section 3 is passed, elections of Faculty to University Committees will also be by plurality.