

BY-LAW 3

ENGINEERING SOCIETY ELECTIONS

Part I: Elections Committee

1. There shall exist an Engineering Society Elections Committee which shall organize and conduct the elections of the Executive, of all Year representatives of the society, and of other Society officers where the need should arise.
2. The EngSoc Elections Committee shall be composed of
 - a. A Chief Electoral Officer (CEO):
 - i. The CEO shall be responsible for resolving disputes and making rulings during the election, interpreting the Engineering Society Constitution for this purpose in a manner consistent with its intentions.
 - ii. The Director of Internal Affairs shall serve as the CEO
 1. If the Director of Internal Affairs's absence, the Vice President (Society Affairs) shall serve as the CEO.
 2. In the absence of the Director of Internal Affairs and the Vice President (Society Affairs), the Engineering Society Council shall appoint a Society member to serve as CEO.
 - b. A Chief Returning Officer (CRO):
 - i. The CRO shall be responsible for the logistics, coordination and delegation of tasks for all elections and enforce Bylaw 3 to that end
 - ii. The CRO shall defer to the CEO for a ruling where a dispute is registered.
 - iii. The CRO will be appointed by the Executive and ratified by the EngSoc Council based on Policy Manual Section γ.A.
 - c. Deputy Returning Officer(s) (DRO):
 - i. The DRO(s) shall be responsible for aiding the CRO in coordination of all elections
 - ii. DRO(s) will not be consulted in election rulings or disputes
 - iii. The DRO(s) will be appointed by the Executive and ratified by the EngSoc Council based on Policy Manual Section γ.A.

Part II: EngSoc Executive Elections

3. The officers listed below shall be nominated and elected by all members of the Engineering Society:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice-President (Student Development)
 - c. Vice-President (Operations)

- d. Vice-President (Society Affairs)
- e. Vice-President (Academic)
- f. Senators

4. Nominations for these positions must be submitted before the end of the business day the Wednesday two weeks prior to last day of polling. Such nominations shall be submitted in writing to the Chief Returning Officer of EngSoc and must be signed by at least fifty (50) members of the Engineering Society. There shall be no limit to the number of nominees for the candidacy of each office.

5. An all candidates meeting of all members of EngSoc shall be held as soon as possible after nominations have been received. At this meeting nominees for each position will be allowed to speak.

6. a. In the event of no nominees for the candidacy of any one position, the nomination period will be extended until the following Saturday at noon. If 1 or more nomination is received the election for this position will be held with the regular election. There will be no further extensions.

b. If only one nomination is received for any one position at the end of the nomination period, the nomination period will be extended until the following Sunday at noon. The election for this position will be held with the regular election. If there is still only one nominee at the end of the period, a yes/no vote will be held with the regular election to determine if the nominee will be acclaimed to the position. The nominee will be subject to all rules concerning candidacy.

i. The question to appear on the ballot be of the form: "Do you have confidence in the ability of (candidate) to perform the duties of (position)?"

ii. If the outcome of the vote is negative, then the EngSoc Council shall appoint a qualified person to that position at the first EngSoc Council meeting thereafter. Notice shall be given to all members of the Engineering Society and all interested members will be invited to appear before Council. A candidate may not be appointed to the same Executive position in a session of Council in which they have been defeated in a confidence vote.

iii. If the outcome of the vote is positive, the nominee will be acclaimed to the nominated position.

c. If no nomination for the position is received within the extended nomination period, then the EngSoc Council shall appoint a qualified person to that position at the first EngSoc Council meeting thereafter.

12. In the event that a Club has not held its election by the specified date the Elections Committee of EngSoc shall see that the election is held during the following week.

Part IV: Election of Year Executives

13. EngSoc Election Committee shall be responsible for the election of all year executives, and of First Year Section Representatives and the Chair or appointed delegate shall preside at all such election meetings.

14. Notice of all offices to be filled shall be publicized at least one week prior to the election meeting. In particular, the election of the First Year Executive shall be publicized through the Frosh Welcoming Committee.

15. The elections for the First Year Executive shall be held during the second week of classes.

16. Section Representatives shall be elected for each super section as early as possible following the election of the First Year Executive. The representative from Section J shall be elected as soon as the enrolment in Section J reaches twenty-five (25) persons. These positions shall remain in effect until the end of the first academic year.

a. A Super Section is defined as a grouping of multiple first year class sections that take large classes together. For example if sections A, B, C, D all take chemistry together that would be a super section.

17. The elections for second, third and fourth year Year Executives shall be held not later than the last week in February but not earlier than the day after the EngSoc Elections.

18. The elections for each year shall be scheduled for such a time as will be convenient to as many members as possible. The elections for all positions of a given Year Executive shall be held at the same meeting.

19. Officers shall be elected in the order in which the offices are listed in By-Law 5. Nominations for each office shall be accepted immediately prior to the voting for that office. The presiding officer at the election meeting may limit the number of nominees for any position to not less than three persons, in the interests of saving time.

20. All candidates for each office shall be permitted to speak for a reasonable amount of time prior to the voting for that office. The presiding officer shall fix a time limit which shall apply to all candidates.

21. The voting shall be conducted by a show of hands or by a rising vote in accordance with Preferential Balloting as defined in By-Law 3 Part VIII.33.a. For

each office, a series of votes shall be taken, with the candidate receiving the fewest votes being removed from the slate after each vote, until only the specified number of candidates remain.

22. Immediately following the election of each executive, the presiding officer shall instruct the officers in their duties.

Part V: Referenda

23. a. The Engineering Society may conduct referenda on any matters within the jurisdiction of the Society or affecting the interests of the Society.

b. The decisions so made shall be binding upon the Society, provided that it is within the purview of the Engineering Society to act upon the decision.

24. a. There shall be an annual referendum to be conducted concurrently with the election of the EngSoc Executive.

b. Notwithstanding the above, if there are no questions to be asked in a given year, then no referendum need be conducted.

25. a. A question may be added to the questions for the annual referendum by the Engineering Society Council, through a resolution to be decided by a simple majority of members present and voting.

b. A question may be added to the questions for the annual referendum through the presentation of a petition bearing the signatures of at least five per cent (5%) of the ordinary members of the Engineering Society. Such petitions shall be received by the chair of the Elections Committee, or by the Speaker of the EngSoc Council.

26. The results of a question put to referendum shall be invalid if the question receives less than one week's advance notice before the opening of the polls.

27. a. Notwithstanding Section 25, the EngSoc Council may call an emergency referendum at any time by means of a resolution which receives the affirmative votes of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting.

b. The provisions of Section 27 shall apply to such emergency referenda.

28. The Chief Returning Officer shall publicize the questions to be presented on the referendum, the dates of the referendum, and the locations and times of operation of the polling stations to the members of the Engineering Society. Not limiting the generality of the former, the Chief Returning Officer shall:

a. Keep available for public viewing in the Engineering Society Lounge the questions that are to appear on the referendum ballot.

b. Send an email to all subscribed engineering e-mail accounts.

c. If the questions are received by the Chief Returning Officer prior to the submission deadlines to the two issues of Golden Words before the opening

of the polls of the referendum, publish the abovementioned information in the This Is For Real section of the Golden Words, and in paid advertisement form if deemed necessary by the Chief Returning Officer. The questions will be published in both issues if received in time, or just one issue if received after the submission date for the first issue but before the submission date of the second issue. This does not limit the Chief Returning Officer from publishing the abovementioned information in other issues of Golden Words or in other publications.

- 29. a.** The Elections Committee will be required to publish a list of campaign regulations, subject to approval by the EngSoc Council, for any group that should run a Yes or No campaign in response to the referendum question. Any group, wishing to run a Yes or No campaign must provide written notification to the Chief Returning Officer. All individuals within these groups will be required to obey these regulations. Individuals will be held accountable by the Engineering Society Review Board. It shall be the duty of the Elections Committee to have printed and distributed around the campus prior to the referendum, posters displaying the date and time of the referendum, times and locations of all polling booths, and the referendum questions.
- b.** The spending limit shall be set at \$30.00 for both the Yes and No Campaign teams.
- c.** EngSoc agrees to subsidize one group who wishes to run a Yes campaign and one group who wishes to run a No campaign to an amount not exceeding \$30.00 upon submission of receipts of expenses incurred from the campaign. This subsidy will be granted if the percentage of the vote received by the Campaign Team on the disputed question in the referendum is greater than 20%.
- d. i.** In the event that more than one group wishes to run a Yes or No campaign, the Chief Returning Officer will request that the multiple groups on each side merge to form a single Yes and a single No campaign.
- ii.** If a merger is not agreeable to the multiple groups who wish to run either a Yes or No campaign, the Chief Returning Officer shall rule in favour of one group, which shall receive the full campaign allowance.
- e.** In the event that the Engineering Society Executive or Council elects to run a Yes or No campaign, the Engineering Society shall fund the campaign and the expenses on that campaign must not exceed the spending limit set above or by the Elections Team.

Part VI: Senators

- 30. a.** The EngSoc Senators shall be selected through a Society-wide election, normally conducted concurrently with the EngSoc Executive elections.
- b.** If at all possible, the election shall have been conducted in time for the result to be communicated to Senate at its regular February meeting.
- c.** The election shall be governed by the same rules as those governing the election of the EngSoc Executive, as regards to the nomination procedure, the campaign regulations, and the polling procedure.
- d.** Only those members of EngSoc, whose expected year of graduation (as they perceive it at the time of their election) is such that they would be able to hold office for the specified term, are eligible to stand for election as Senators.
- 31. a.** Should a vacancy occur, a new Senator shall be elected as rapidly as is possible, who shall hold office until the expiration of the original two-year term.
- b.** In the event that a vacancy occurs close to the end of the two-year term, it shall be at the discretion of the EngSoc Council to decide, on the recommendations of its Elections Committee, whether or not the vacancy is to be filled.
- c.** Should a by-election to fill a vacancy on Senate be necessary, any member of EngSoc who meets the requirements of Section 30 d) shall be eligible to stand for election.

Part VII: Methods of Voting

32. Preferential Voting

a. Multiple round voting

- i.** All persons entitled to cast a vote shall cast a single vote. If multiple candidates are to be selected in a single running, all persons entitled to cast a vote shall cast as many votes as there are candidates to be selected.
- ii.** If one of the candidates has secured greater than 50% of the votes cast, they shall be declared the winner. If no candidate has greater than 50%, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be eliminated from candidacy and all persons entitled to cast a vote shall recast their vote(s) given the reduced slate of candidates.

b. Balloted voting

- i.** All persons entitled to cast a vote shall rank the candidates in order of preference (first preference, second preference, third preference, etc.) on the ballot.
- ii.** All candidates need not be ranked on a ballot.
- iii.** A ballot marked with a single 'X' or other lone demarcation clearly indicating the selection of a single candidate over all others (as in the first-

past-the-post system) shall be interpreted as a first preference ranking for the selected candidate and no preference for the remaining candidates.

iv. If there is any ambiguity in a ballot as to the explicitly stated preference between any two candidates, that ballot is to be considered spoiled and set aside.

v. A ballot is defined to be a vote for a particular candidate if:

1. the candidate is the highest ranked preference on the ballot.
2. the candidate has not been eliminated from candidacy.

vi. If one candidate receives more than 50% of the votes cast, they shall be declared the winner. If no candidate has greater than 50%, the candidate with the least number of votes shall be eliminated from candidacy. All votes for that candidate are then redistributed to the candidate who is the next preference listed on that ballot and is still in candidacy. If there are no remaining votes for candidates still in candidacy on a particular ballot, the ballot shall be set aside. This redistribution shall continue until one candidate has collected greater than 50% of the votes cast, or only two candidates remain. If only two candidates remain and neither has collected greater than 50% of the votes cast, the candidate with the greatest number of votes shall be declared the winner.