

Nominations and elections

The UPEISU Council is finally about to vote on a new set of election procedures, spawned after last March's heated campaigning raised questions about the adequacy of existing guidelines.

A committee struck in April prepared the document over the summer, but Council decided in October to delay final approval until a by-law mechanism was added to the UPEISU Constitution.

If approved, the new procedure will become the third Student Union by-law, following the introduction this week of by-laws regarding sub-organizations and hiring policies.

Stated below are the major changes outlined in the new proposal:

- 1) A definition of the position of Chief Returning Officer has been created, to replace the title of Chief Electoral Officer, whose duties were poorly defined in the previous procedures.
- 2) Conditions of eligibility for elected office have been clarified. With the exception of the representatives on Council and Senate from the mature and part-time students candidates must be taking at least three courses at the time of nomination, having paid Student Union fees in full before declaring candidacy.
- 3) Elections by acclamation will no longer be standard procedure. Instead, if only one person has come forward for a position after nominations close, a "yes/no/abstain" vote will be held to validate the person's appointment.
- 4) Campaigning has been defined and the description of acceptable methods of campaigning enlarged. No longer will candidates be declared ineligible if posters or banners bearing their names are discovered to have been displayed during polling hours.
- 5) Procedures for continuing an election if one or more candidates have been stricken from the ballot are now clear.
- 6) A clause dealing with appeals of decisions of the CRO has been added.
- 7) Conditions for the holding of by-elections have been described, and dates set for the necessity of holding by-elections after January 1 for executive positions.
- 8) The referenda procedures have been outlined where none existed before.

Disqualification will result if the posters or banners, etc. are found within the visible distance of the polling station, but otherwise fines will be levied for outstanding campaign displays.

For more information about any changes to elections procedures, inquire at the Student Union office. Copies are available

and Vice President Academic Carolyn Ryan will answer any questions.

The by-laws will be voted on at the March 2 meeting of Council.

4 Constitutional Amendments to be voted on during Elections, March 12, 13.

UPEISU CONSTITUTION

The Following 3 amendments address concerns of the February 3 General Meeting.

Article IV — Student Union Fees

- C) Changes in student fees for active members shall be conducted in the following manner:
 - 1) Notices shall be given of a fee change at a meeting of the UPEISU Council.
 - 2) Publicity of the amount of fee change and its justification shall be given in the student newspaper for two consecutive issues.
 - 3) There shall be a general information session advertised in the student newspaper and held for purposes of discussing and explaining changes in student fees for any students who wish to attend. The meeting shall take place at least one week after the notice of fee change has been made to the UPEISU Council.
 - 4) The fee change shall be voted upon at a meeting of the UPEISU Council two weeks after its introduction

NOTICE

Nominations for the following Student Council positions will be opening on Monday, February 24:

- 1 senate
- 2 Business Reps.
- 1 Education Rep.
- Ombudsman

Nominations close Friday, March at 5:00 p.m. with a compulsory nominees' meeting at 5:30 p.m. Elections run March 12-March 13.

Nomination forms may be picked up at the SU Office, in the Barn.

There is also a need for volunteers to work with the elections committee, this will entitle volunteers to attend the S.U. Party at the end of the semester.

**Get Involved,
Bill Sinnott
Interim CRO**

Article IX — By-laws

- D) 2) Publicity of a proposed by-law or an amendment to an existing by-law shall be given in one issue of the student newspaper before the meeting of Council when it is to be brought for approval.

The following amendment is due to a Council decision to add to the position of V.P. Operations.

Article XI — Executive

- C) The V.P. Operations shall:
 - 5) Serve as a liaison between the UPEISU Council and the house committees of campus residences for the coordination of social events.

Article XXI — Impeachment Procedure

- C) Insertion of "or the Ombudsman" after "the speaker" in the second line of this second.

Note: This impeachment of the Ombudsman cannot be conducted by the Council. This safeguards against the Council thwarting the Ombudsman in his efforts.