



LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

BILL SP 2022-004 (changing elections timeframe) **SPRING 2022 SESSION**

Bylaw

Legislative Action:

Introduced by: GPSA Executive Branch

1st Reading: LSC Chair Referred To: LSC

2nd Reading: LSC on 04.23.22 Committee Action:

3rd Reading: Council Action:

Executive Action:

Approved Vetoed

GPSA President

Date

Unsigned by the President on this ____ day of ____ 2022. Bill automatically becomes law.

Legislative Response:

Veto override vote taken: _____ Council Action: _____

Summary of key points:

Alters the timeframe of elections to accommodate for IT to provide support for the electronic ballot and allows for the announcement of elections to be closer to the conclusion of the election.

Found in GPSA Bylaws:

Section 6. General Election

- A. The election shall take place Monday through **Thursday Friday** of the last week of March, unless otherwise decided by Council. The electronic voting shall begin at **9:00 8:00 a.m.** on the first (1st) day and end at 11:59 p.m. on the last day of the election.
- B. Any ballot items included in the election shall be approved by Council or through referenda.
- C. Elections shall be conducted electronically and use a computer- or phone-based system that is managed by IT.
- D. Ballots and Polling:
 - 1. Ballots shall have a randomly ordered list of candidates decided through a blind draw and clear instructions for marking and submitting one’s vote. Provision for write-in votes shall be included on the ballot.
 - 2. All ballot items shall appear on the ballot with the language received by the Elections Committee.
- E. The final vote count of the elections should be emailed to GPSA Election Chair and GPSA advisor.

47 F. Voting Certification:

- 48 1. The candidate elected to office shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast and
49 each other ballot item shall be determined by a majority of votes cast on each
50 item.
51 2. Should the plurality winner of the GPSA General Election be declared ineligible
52 or unable to assume office for any reason before the certification of the election
53 results, in the case of a tie, or if the Elections Committee votes not to certify an
54 election, a special Council meeting shall be called so that a Special Election can
55 be scheduled.
56 3. The Elections Committee shall certify the results of a General Election after it has
57 been determined to have been conducted in accordance with the GPSA
58 Constitution and Bylaws.
59

60 Section 9. Recall Election by GPSA Membership

61 A. Upon receipt of the recall petition or a Council vote of removal, the Elections Committee
62 shall initiate a recall election.

- 63 1. When the President is removed in a Recall Election due to a petition received
64 after the regularly scheduled March Council meeting, no Special Election for
65 Presidential Replacement is required.
66 2. The Recall Election should occur by electronic voting over two (2) consecutive
67 academic days.
68 a. Voting shall open at **9:00** ~~8:00~~ a.m. of the first day of the election and
69 close at 11:59 p.m. on the following day.
70 b. The Elections Committee shall approve the results of a GPSA election
71 after it has been determined that all provisions of the current GPSA
72 Constitution and Bylaws were followed.
73

74 Section 10. Special Elections

75 A. Special Elections shall take place between three (3) and four (4) academic weeks after the
76 Council meeting, Presidential declaration, or referendum that created the Special
77 Election, unless otherwise noted.

- 78 1. No Special Elections shall be held between the last day of the spring semester and
79 the regularly scheduled August Council meeting.
80 2. The Special Election must occur by electronic voting over two (2) consecutive
81 academic days.
82 3. Voting shall open at **9:00** ~~8:00~~ a.m. of the first (1st) day of the election and close
83 at 11:59 p.m. on the second (2nd) day of the election.
84 4. The Elections Committee shall approve the results of a GPSA election after it has
85 been determined that all provisions of the currently published Election Code,
86 Bylaws, and Constitution were followed, and any challenge(s) was (were)
87 resolved.
88 5. Special Council Chair Elections shall take place at the Council meeting following
89 the Council meeting at which the Election was created and shall follow the
90 procedures of the Council Chair Election.
91 6. Referendum petitions for Special Elections shall be delivered to the Elections
92 Committee.

Key: Bold text = new wording

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Non-bold text = original wording

Strikeout = eliminated language

Comment = New Comment margin note preferred. May also put text in red

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- a. The Elections Committee has five (5) academic days to validate the petition after it petition has been received.
- b. A special election by referendum shall occur within fifteen (15) academic days of the approval of the petition.

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~~Strikeout~~ = eliminated language

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