

Other that stipulating that the elections are to be by “the previous Senate,” neither the *University at Albany Bylaws* nor the *Charter of the University Senate* specifies the method to be used in electing the Vice Chair or the Secretary. After lengthy exchange of emails among Senate officers and a discussion within the Governance Council, the following is suggested as the method to be used for the April 16<sup>th</sup> election of Vice Chair.

If the Senate Executive Committee and the University Senate agree to these procedures, it is further suggested that these be added to the Charter (in section X.1.4.3.2) through the normal amendment process.

#### X.1.4.3.2.5 Method of Election of the Vice Chair and the Secretary of the University Senate

X.1.4.3.2.5.1 As stipulated in Article II, Section 3.2 of the *Bylaws*, “The Vice Chair and the Secretary shall be elected by the previous Senate.”

X.1.4.3.2.5.2 Immediately prior to the election, candidates shall have the opportunity to address the University Senate for up to two minutes. Since candidates need not be Senators at the time of the election, another individual may speak on behalf of the candidate for up to two minutes or the candidate may provide a statement of no more than 500 words to be read to the Senate by the Secretary of the Senate.

X.1.4.3.2.5.3 Elections shall be by secret ballot of the Senate as a whole, provided that if there is only one (1) candidate and if there is no objection from the floor, the Senate may authorize a unanimous ballot be cast for that candidate.

X.1.4.3.2.5.4 If no candidate receives a majority of the ballots cast, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be removed from the slate, and the election will be repeated until a candidate receives a majority. In cases candidates are tied for the lowest number of votes, all of those candidates are removed from the slate. If this results in only one candidate remaining, that candidate shall be considered to have won the election even though the candidate did *not* receive a majority of the votes cast.

X.1.4.3.2.5.5 If at the end of a ballot it is determined that the remaining candidates are tied for first place, then the Chair will cast the winning vote. “The chair cannot, however, vote twice, first to make a tie and then give the casting vote.” (*Roberts’ Rules*, Article VIII, section 46)