

Senate Council  
November 27, 2017

Discussion of Voting Process, etc. for SC Chair and Vice Chair Elections

The election of a chair and vice chair (for terms of June 1, 2018 – May 30, 2019) will occur at the Senate Council meeting on December 4. SC elections for the position of chair in the recent past have been between two candidates; this is the first instance of three candidates for chair. There are two election-related issues on which the Chair would like SC's input.

**Issue #1: Voting Method**

Balloting and re-balloting (open-ended, repeat balloting) to identify a single candidate with majority support is identified by Robert's Rules of Order as the preferred method of voting. The Chair proposes that SC begin with this method to identify a candidate with the support of the majority of SC members. Because open-ended, repeat balloting may not easily or quickly identify a candidate who is supported by a majority of members, the Chair proposes that SC hold no more than five total rounds of balloting under this method.

If after five ballots no candidate has the support of a majority of SC members, the Chair proposes that SC use preferential (rank order) voting as described and illustrated in RONR (11<sup>th</sup> ed.) p. 425, l. 33. SC members would be asked to rank order their first choice, second choice, and third choice. The results of this ranking would determine which candidate wins the election.

**Issue #2: Opportunity for SC Members to Review Senators' Comments and Opportunities for Candidates to Speak**

The Chair will provide the comments from senators to all SC members (including candidates) in advance of the SC meeting on December 4, via email. The Chair proposes that during the meeting, each candidate be allotted five minutes in which to make a statement and/or respond to questions or comments.