

## **Elections and Rules**

### **Spring 2014**

#### **ELECTIONS:**

##### **Department Chairs**

These elections are usually held in the fall. Academic Affairs will send the timeline for nominations and the elections. In some cases, Department Chair Elections will be held in the spring. Elections have been conducted using Survey Gizmo although there is currently a discussion about developing an in-house electronic voting system.

##### **Senate Elections**

These are held in the spring.

Timeline:

Nominations – 2 weeks or ten business days. Prior practice has been that nominations are called for during the 5<sup>th</sup> week of the semester with voting taking place prior to spring break.

After receiving nominations, a list of nominees should be sent to each electoral area and the Senate at large. (You may want to allow at least a week between the end of nominations and actual voting to arrange candidate forums for contested elections).

Voting – should take place after the candidate forums. Voters have 5 business days to vote. After voting ends, the results should be announced to faculty and posted in the mailroom.

The following issues were raised by the Spring 2014 Election:

- Should ballots allow for a write in option?
- Define majority vs. plurality – In some elections, i.e. adjunct, a plurality of votes may be appropriate since there are so many seats open. However, for officers, a majority of votes may be appropriate. In either case, the by-laws need to clarify this for future elections.
- Should by-laws dictate how candidates conduct their campaigns?
- Should the Senate/College pursue developing an in-house voting system?
- Should a process for a run-off election be specified in the by-laws?

## **RULES (BY LAWS)**

- A first read of the bylaws needs to be approved by the Senate. Corrections have been made to the document to reflect feedback given by the Senate.
- Appendix A (Scope and Function of Committees) needs to be attached to the By-laws. Page is currently working on this.
- Article I, Section 3: How should seats be allocated if full-time faculty teach in more than one area?

## **OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- Should the committee address the Robert's Rules of Order Resolution from Fall 13?
- Should the committee re-examine the Scope and Function of Elections and Rules?