

ASMSU 2017-B-01

Sponsor: Theodore Grover  
Co-Sponsors: Matthew Campbell  
Jacob Kaminetzky  
Scott Killian

Yes 17 No 0 Senators Present 17  
First Reading 26 January 2017  
Second Reading 2 February 2017

Vote Necessary: A majority

Brian Smith  
ASMSU Senate Speaker

Sections: 5-1 through 5-8

[Signature]  
ASMSU President

Intent: Updates to the Senate Rules.

Effective Date 2/16/17

1 Section 5-1 Authority

- 2 A. These rules shall apply only to meetings of the ASMSU Senate.
- 3 B. The most recent edition of *Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised* shall serve as the authority on
- 4 conduct and procedure in all matters pertaining to the Senate when not in conflict with the
- 5 authorities of the Constitution or these Bylaws.

6 Section 5-2 Session

- 7 A. The Senate shall be in session beginning from the first meeting of the Fall semester until the last
- 8 meeting of the Spring semester.
- 9 B. The first meeting of the session shall occur no later than the second full week of fall semester.
- 10 C. Meetings shall be held at least weekly during the instructional periods of fall and spring semester,
- 11 not including the first full week of fall semester, the last full week of spring semester, and finals
- 12 weeks.
- 13 D. Meetings of the Senate can be cancelled only by a three-fourths majority vote of the Senate and
- 14 must be voted on at the meeting immediately preceding the cancelled one. The Senate Speaker
- 15 may cancel a meeting only if a risk exists to ~~life or limb.~~ member's well-being.

16 Section 5-3 Voting

- 17 A. General Voting
- 18 1. In all instances where a specific proportion of affirmative votes from the members of the
- 19 Senate that are present at the meeting and voting shall be required, such proportion shall be
- 20 calculated solely from the affirmative and negative vote counts, ignoring any abstentions
- 21 entirely.

- 1           2. In all instances requiring a specific proportion of affirmative votes from the entire
- 2           membership of the Senate, or from all members of the Senate present, abstentions
- 3           necessarily must be calculated as negative votes.
- 4           3. The Senate ~~President~~ Speaker shall only vote in the case of a tie vote. This vote must be
- 5           disclosed.

6        B. Ballot Voting

- 7           1. Ballot Voting shall be used for all appointments of Senate ~~l~~eadership, Senate vacancies,
- 8           committees, councils, boards, and taskforces that require an appointment by Senate.

9        Section 5-4           **Executive Session**

10       A. Executive Session

- 11           1. Executive session is closed to the public.
- 12           2. Prior to convening in executive session the chair shall announce the rationale that forms the
- 13           legal basis for the executive session.
- 14           3. Executive session shall only be conducted to address confidential personnel issues. Executive
- 15           session shall not be called if the person being discussed wishes to have an open meeting.
- 16           Senate may go into executive session at any time.
- 17           4. No public record shall be kept of executive session business.
- 18           5. Executive session shall be conducted according to MCA 2-3-203.
- 19           6. MCA 2-3-203 shall supersede Section 5-4 in case of conflict with these Bylaws.

20       Section 5-5           **Quorum**

21       A. Quorum of the Senate shall consist of the presence of at least 50% plus 1 of the voting seats in

22       the Senate.

23       B. In the absence of quorum, the Senate shall only:

- 24           1. Receive reports from Senators, program directors, and executives;
- 25           2. Conduct public comment;
- 26           3. Hear presentations; and,
- 27           4. Allow members to make announcements.

1 Section 5-6           **Open Meeting**

- 2       A. Senate meetings shall be open to the public in accordance with MCA 2-3-203.
- 3       B. Public comment regarding issues pertaining to ASMSU shall be allowed at the beginning of each
- 4       meeting.
- 5       C. The amount of time allotted for public comment will be at the ~~Senate President's~~ discretion of
- 6       the chairperson.

7 Section 5-7           **Yielding to Public**

- 8       A. Any member of the public can be yielded time by a Senator who has the floor for relevant input.

9 Section 5-8           **Conduct**

- 10      A. Each year, following taking office, the Senate will affirm a code of expectations for the upcoming
- 11      year.