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SB25-21/22: Resolution Amending Article IV, Section 7 of the ASUM Bylaws to Provide Procedures for Processing Applications

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Kiefer, Emma, "SB25-21/22: Resolution Amending Article IV, Section 7 of the ASUM Bylaws to Provide Procedures for Processing Applications" (2021). *Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present*. 948.
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1 **Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Amending Article IV, Section 7 of the ASUM Bylaws to Provide Procedures for**
3 **Processing Applications**
4 **October 7, 2021**
5 **SB25-21/22**
6 **Authored by: Emma Kiefer, ASUM Senator;**
7

8 Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (“ASUM”) Bylaws aim to facil-
9 itate an efficient, adaptable, and democratic representative body¹;

10
11 Whereas, Article IV, Section 7 of the Bylaws is generally vague and does not provide adequate
12 rules for the interview process;

13
14 Whereas, The Interview Committee (the “Committee”) currently has minimal rules governing
15 the approval of applications, the interview process, the voting process, and a timeline for the pro-
16 cessing of applications;

17
18 Whereas, The Committee is responsible for interviewing and recommending individuals to the
19 President for positions within ASUM²;

20
21 Whereas, It is implied that the Committee should view and process applications before they are
22 seen by the ASUM Executives;

23
24 Whereas, Applications for Senator and Student-At-Large seats are currently sent to the ASUM
25 Vice President’s email address;

26
27 Whereas, Any Vice President in a given year could personally decide not to forward an applica-
28 tion to the Committee without reason or accountability;

29
30 Whereas, One of the core components of American democracy is the system of checks and bal-
31 ances³;

32
33 Whereas, In order for ASUM to uphold its duties as a democratic representative body, there
34 should be policies and procedures in place to balance power between the Executives and the Sen-
35 ate;

36
37 Whereas, The Chair of the Committee changes frequently;

38
39 Whereas, The ASUM Senate Secretary (the “Secretary”) has a permanent email address;
40

¹Associated Students of the University of Montana Bylaws, Preamble.

²Associated Students of the University of Montana ASUM Bylaws, Art. IV §7.

³ Khan Academy, Principles of American government <https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/us-government-and-civics/us-gov-foundations/us-gov-principles-of-american-government/a/principles-of-american-government-article>

41 Whereas, The Secretary does not have the same decision-making power as the Executives;

42
43 Whereas, The Secretary's duties currently include preparing documents for the ASUM Senate
44 including providing copies and emailing Senate documents to Senate members and University of
45 Montana representatives⁴;

46
47 Whereas, Changing the online application to be sent to the Secretary's email address aligns with
48 their existing duties;

49
50 Whereas, The Secretary can forward applications to the current Chair of the Committee;

51
52 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That Article IV, Section 7 of the ASUM Bylaws be amended to
53 read:

54
55 *Section 7. Interview Committee*

56
57 *(1)The Interview Committee shall be composed of seven (7) voting members, of which*
58 *five (5) shall be Senators and the remaining two (2) shall be Senators and/or students-at-*
59 *large at the discretion of the Vice President.*

60
61 *(2)A Senator shall chair the Committee.*

62
63 *(3)The Committee shall be responsible for interviewing and recommending individuals to*
64 *the President for positions within ASUM. This may include, but is not limited to, vacant*
65 *Senate seats, Student Regent Nominees, the ASUM Lobbyist, and the Student Political*
66 *Action Director.*

67
68 *(4)The President may request the Committee to convene to interview and recommend any*
69 *other positions within ASUM except classified staff.*

70
71 *(5)The President and the Committee shall be required to meet following the conclusion of*
72 *the interviewing process and disclose the reasoning behind both their recommendations.*

73
74 *(6)All applications shall be sent to the Secretary. The Secretary shall forward all appli-*
75 *cations to the Chair of the Committee.*

76
77 *(7)The Committee shall vote by a simple majority to advance an application to an inter-*
78 *view. The Committee shall vote by a simple majority after an interview to forward the ap-*
79 *plication to the President for confirmation.*

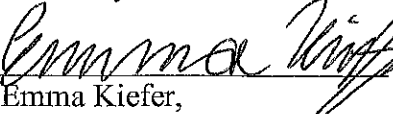
80
81 *(8)The Committee shall process all Senator and Student-At-Large applications within fif-*
82 *teen (15) days of submission. Extensions shall be granted at the discretion of the Chair,*
83 *with written notice to the President. This does not include Student Regent Nominees, the*
84 *ASUM Lobbyist, the Student Political Action Director, or other similarly appointed or*
85 *interviewed positions.;*

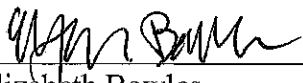
⁴Associated Students of the University of Montana, Personnel Policy §4.22.

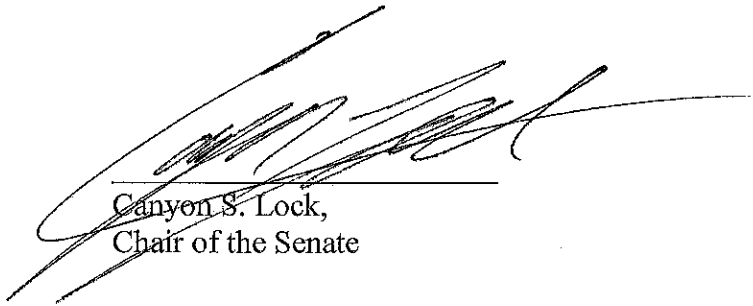
86
87 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to Gwen Coon, ASUM Office
88 Manager, and Alexandra Berna, ASUM Secretary.
89

90
91 Passed by Committee: October 10, 2021
92

93 Passed by ASUM Senate: October 13, 2021

94 
95 _____
96 Emma Kiefer,
97 Chair of Interview Committee

98 
99 _____
100 Elizabeth Bowles,
101 Chair of Relations and Affairs



Canyon S. Lock,
Chair of the Senate

102
103 Passed Unanimously.