

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present

ASUM Student Government

---

Fall 11-9-2022

### SB06-22/23: Resolution Generally Amending Article IV of the Bylaws

Maggie Bell

Emma Wickum

Alexandra Berna

Follow this and additional works at: [https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum\\_resolutions](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum_resolutions)

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

Bell, Maggie; Wickum, Emma; and Berna, Alexandra, "SB06-22/23: Resolution Generally Amending Article IV of the Bylaws" (2022). *Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present*. 993.

[https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum\\_resolutions/993](https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum_resolutions/993)

This Institutional Document is brought to you for free and open access by the ASUM Student Government at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

**The Associated Students of the University of Montana  
Resolution Generally Amending Article IV of the Bylaws**

**September 17, 2022**

**SB06-22/23**

**Authored by: Maggie Bell, ASUM Senator; Emma Wickum, ASUM Senator; Alexandra Berna, ASUM Vice President;**

**Sponsored by: Alysa Curry, ASUM Senator; Lauren O'Neill, Student-At-Large; Taylor Curry, ASUM Senator;**

Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (“ASUM”) is governed by the bylaws;

Whereas, Article IV of the Bylaws, Boards and Committees, is outdated, ambiguous, and in need of revision;

Whereas, The Interview Committee (the “Committee”) has experienced repeated violations of confidentiality, calling for the clarifying of expectations and operating procedure within the Committee;

Whereas, Applicants seen before the Committee should be treated with the utmost respect and professionalism;

Whereas, Making Senator and Student-At-Large applications public while keeping interview video recordings private among Committee members balances transparency, consent, and respect of the involved parties;

Whereas, Establishing a practice to forward the Committee members’ thoughts on applicants to the President prior to the final recommendations allows the President to duly consider each applicant;

Whereas, Establishing a cycling system for Committee members will support fairness and confidentiality for applicants and Committee members alike;

Whereas, Article IV, Section 7, Subsection 3 of the Bylaws designates that the Committee Chair is to act as a neutral facilitator;

Whereas, Maintaining a neutral Committee Chair allows for a consistent Committee structure through understanding, continued knowledge, and communication practices;

Whereas, Article IV of the Bylaws has defunct language and should be updated to effectuate the general operation and attitudes of the ASUM Senate;

Whereas, Article IV, Section 1 (12) of the Bylaws currently reads:

*(12) Boards and committees shall reserve seats for Students-At-Large. They are independent from the Senate and do not hold an elected position within ASUM. A student may become a Student-At-Large by applying and being appointed to any board or committee by the Vice President, approved by the President, and confirmed by the Senate by a simple majority vote. A Student-At-Large must be a Member. If a Student-At-Large becomes a Senator through appointment, a seat will be added to any committees they serve on only if all other Senator seats are filled. If the Senator resigns, is removed, or otherwise cannot serve, the additional seat will be removed. Additionally, Students-At-Large who sit on university committees shall be appointed through the same process and shall be held to the same standards as explained in this clause as well as in Section 4.14 of Personnel Policy.*

Whereas, Article IV, Section 7 of the Bylaws currently reads:

*Section 7. Interview Committee*

- (1) The Interview Committee shall be composed of seven (7) voting members, of which five (5) shall be Senators and the remaining two (2) shall be Senators and/or students-at-large at the discretion of the Vice President.*
- (2) A Senator shall chair the Committee.*
- (3) The Chair of the Committee shall act as a neutral facilitator throughout the interview process.*
- (4) The Committee shall be responsible for interviewing and recommending individuals to the President for positions within ASUM. This may include, but is not limited to, vacant Senate seats, Student Regent Nominees, the ASUM Lobbyist and the Student Political Action Director.*
- (5) The President may request the Committee to convene to interview and recommend any other positions with ASUM except classified staff.*

- (6) *The President and the Chair of the Committee shall be required to meet following the conclusion of the interviewing process and disclose the reasoning behind both their recommendations.*
- (7) *All applications shall be sent to the Secretary. The secretary shall forward all applications to the Chair of the Committee.*
- (8) *The Committee shall vote by a simple majority to advance an application to an interview. The Committee shall vote by a simple majority after an interview to forward the application to the President for confirmation.*
- (9) *The Committee shall process all Senator and Student-At-Large applications within fifteen (15) days of submission. Extensions shall be granted at the discretion of the Chair, with written notice to the President. This does not include Student Regent Nominees, The ASUM Lobbyist, the Student Political Action Director, or other similarly appointed or interviewed positions.*
- (10) *The Committee shall convene at the beginning of the academic year, prior to holding any interviews, to compile a list of questions to ask during Senator and Student-At-Large interviews. There shall be a minimum of eight (8) questions. At least four (4) of the questions shall pertain to subjects of diversity, equity, and inclusion. These questions shall be reviewed and amended as needed at the beginning of the Spring Semester.*

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That Article IV, Section 1 (12) of the Bylaws be amended to read:

*(12) Boards and committees shall reserve seats for Student-At-Large. They are independent from the Senate and do not hold an elected position within ASUM. A student may become a Student-At-Large by applying and being appointed to any board or committee by the Vice President, approved by the President, and confirmed by the Senate by a simple majority vote. **A Student-At-Large may be a distance learner or remote student in effort to promote accessibility.** A Student-At-Large must be a Member. If a Student-At-Large becomes a Senator through appointment, a seat will be added to any committees they serve on only if all other Senator seats are filled. If the Senator resigns, is removed, or otherwise cannot serve, the additional seat will be removed. Additionally, Students-At-Large who sit*

*on university committees shall be appointed through the same process and shall be held to the same standards as explained in this clause as well as Section 4.14 of Personnel Policy.*

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That Article IV, Section 7 of the Bylaws be amended to read:

*Section 7. Interview Committee*

- (1) The Interview Committee shall be composed of seven (7) voting members, of which five (5) shall be Senators and the remaining two (2) shall be Senators and/or **Students-At-Large** at the discretion of the Vice President.*
- (2) A Senator shall chair the Committee.*
- (3) The Chair of the Committee shall act as a neutral facilitator throughout the interview process. **The Chair of the Committee is only eligible to vote in the case of a tie.***
- (4) Interviews will take place in four (4) week cycles. Cycles will begin on the date of the Wednesday Senate meeting in which there is a vacant seat in the Senate. Applications will close two weeks into the cycle and recommendations must be made by the end of the fourth week (Wednesday). SALs will be interviewed on a rolling basis. The cycle is set to change based on the discretion of the Chair and extenuating circumstances.***
- (5) **The Chair of the Committee may be indefinitely maintained. The remaining six Committee members will be cycled and reassigned at the discretion of the Vice President and Committee Chair at the start of each deliberation and recommendation cycle. No three identical Committee members are eligible to serve simultaneously in consecutive assignment cycles. The Committee Chair and Vice President shall keep record of Committee members during each cycle.***
- (6) **The Committee shall be responsible for interviewing and recommending individuals to the president for positions within ASUM. This may include, but is not limited to, vacant Senate seats, Student***

*Regent Nominees, the ASUM Lobbyist, and the Student Political Action Director. The Committee is responsible for interviewing candidates for vacant Senate seats and Student-At-Large positions. A minimum of three (3) Members of the Committee ("Members") shall be required to sit on all hiring interviews including but not limited to, Student Regent Nominees, the ASUM Lobbyist, and the Student Political Action Director.*

- (7) The President ~~may~~ shall request the Members to ~~convene~~ to sit on all hiring interviews and recommend any other positions within ASUM, including but not limited to, Student Regent Nominees, the ASUM Lobbyist, and the Student Political Action Director, ~~except~~ excluding the hiring of classified staff.*
- (8) All applications shall be sent to the Secretary. The Secretary shall forward all applications to the Chair of the Committee.*
- (9) All Senator and Student-At-Large applications will be made available to the public with express consent of each applicant. Language preceding each application must make it clear to the applicant that completing their application will make their responses publicly available. Any recording of interviews shall be used solely for the use of absent Members' review.*
- (10) The Committee shall vote by a simple majority to advance an application to an interview. The Committee shall vote by a simple majority after an interview to forward the application to the President for confirmation.*
- (11) The Committee is encouraged to enter executive session when deliberating candidates. Interviews themselves are to be confidential between the Committee and the applicant, although do not require executive session.*
- (12) Each Committee member shall submit written evaluations to the Committee Chair discussing their views on each candidate up for deliberation. The Committee Chair shall then compile these evaluations into a report on behalf of the Committee to be sent to the President prior to the Presidential recommendations.*

*(13)The President and the Chair of the Committee shall be required to meet following the conclusion of the interviewing process and disclose the reasoning behind their recommendations. The Chair of the Committee must refer to their impartial report submitted on behalf of the Committee when discussing recommendations.*

*(14)Members must be available for a majority of interviews. Absences must be made aware of to the Chair at least 24 hours prior to the interview, unless in the case of emergencies. Members who cannot be at fifty percent (50%) of interviews must meet with the Chair to discuss their absences or forfeit their seat on the Committee.*

*(15)The Committee shall convene at the beginning of the academic year, prior to holding any interviews, to compile a list of questions to ask during Senator and Student-At-Large interviews. There shall be a minimum of eight (8) questions. At least four (4) of the questions shall pertain to subjects of **diversity**, equity, and inclusion. These questions shall be reviewed and amended as needed at the beginning of the Spring semester.*

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this Resolution be sent to Alysa Curry, Chair of Interview Committee; Asher Swan-Adams, ASUM Secretary; Gwen Coon, ASUM Office Manager.

Passed by Committee: November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Passed by ASUM Senate: November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

---

Emma Wickum,  
Chair of Relations and Affairs

---

Alexandra Berna,  
Chair of the Senate

---

Alysa Curry,  
Chair of Interview