

Resolution Regarding Amendment Process of the Charter

Whereas Article 11 of the University Assembly (the Assembly) Charter (the Charter) specifies the process by which the Assembly may amend its Charter, Bylaws, and the Procedures;

Whereas Article 11 presently requires the Assembly to conduct a community referendum with 20% turnout in each constituency of the campus community in order to implement changes to those portions of the Charter affecting its authority, membership, and amendment process;

Whereas the Ad Hoc Charter Review Committee of the Assembly (the Committee) has found no record of any successful amendment of the Charter through the specified process;

Whereas the Committee has found the specified process to be more onerous than necessary or appropriate;

Whereas the Committee has found that implementation of other needed reforms to the Charter cannot be practically achieved within the current amendment framework because of the long timeline and rigorous referendum participation requirements;

Whereas the Committee has found that other reforms to the amendment process can provide a sufficient check and balance on amendments to the Charter while permitting necessary flexibility to meet changing constituent and institutional needs;

Be it therefore resolved that Article 11 is amended as follows with deletions indicated in strikethrough and additions in boldface:

An affirmative vote of a majority of the voting members of the ~~University~~ Assembly shall be required to amend the Bylaws and Procedures of the ~~University~~ Assembly, and an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the seated membership ~~those articles of~~ **shall be required to amend the Charter not excluded in 11.1.**

The Assembly may not adopt amendments to the Charter at the same meeting where they are introduced or modified, and the President of the University must approve such amendments before they may be implemented.

~~11.1 Articles excluded~~

~~Articles of the Charter excluded from the amendment procedure specified in Article 11 are those which appear under the headings, Authority, Membership and Changes in the Charter. An amendment to any of these articles is governed by the procedure set forth in Article 11.2.~~

~~11.2 Amendment procedures~~

~~Amendment of the articles set forth in 11.1 shall require approval by community referendum (majority vote in each of the three separate constituencies with a minimum of 20% vote of the constituency) and approval of the President. Before setting amendments into effect, it is expected that the President will report impending changes to the Board of Trustees.~~

~~11.2.1~~

~~An amendment of those articles set forth in 11.1 may be initiated and qualified for presentation to referendum at the next following annual campus election by any one of three pathways:~~

~~11.2.1.1 The UA itself, by a 2/3 vote, may present an amendment.~~

~~11.2.1.2 The Faculty Senate, the SA, the EA, or the GPSA may present such an amendment by a 2/3 vote.~~

~~11.2.1.3 A community group may present an amendment by petition. In order to qualify for presentation at the next following referendum, the petition must be supported by signatures of at least 5% of the total membership of any one of the four constituencies: undergraduate students, graduate/professional students, faculty, and non faculty employees.~~

Be it further resolved that the amendment be presented to the student community for a referendum to occur in conjunction with the Spring Student Trustee Election;

Be it further resolved that the amendment be presented to the employee community for a referendum to occur in conjunction with the Spring Employee Assembly Election;

Be it further resolved that the amendment be presented to the faculty community for a referendum to occur in conjunction with the Spring Faculty Senate Election;

Be it finally resolved that the resolution be presented to the President of the University for consideration at the conclusion of the last referendum for approval as required by the present text of Article 11.

Respectfully Submitted,

Edward Strong