



Undergraduate
Student
Government

Princeton USG Senate

September 25th, 2022

Budget:  **USG Fall 2022 budget**

USG First-Year Guide:

Overview

The USG first-year guide is a project developed by members of the first-year task force, with the help of several USG members and advice gathered from the Class of 2025. The first-year task force was established with the intention of easing the transition to Princeton and addressing the specific needs of first-year students. Over the course of the Spring semester and the Summer, taskforce co-chairs Ned Dockery '25 and Walker Penfield '25 planned and authored much of the materials included in the guide. Other student perspectives were integrated through direct testimonies from members of the USG and from members of the Class of 2025 through the USG Survey. In the week leading up to orientation, the guide was released and viewed by 332 unique individuals.

Process

The first-year guide was mainly designed over the Summer of 2022. During this period, weekly meetings were held to coordinate the development and organization of information to be included in the guide. Near the end of the project, the task force reached out directly to members of the USG and filtered through survey feedback to increase the number of perspectives highlighted.

Usage

The first-year guide was emailed to all incoming students a week prior to the start of orientation. Within the first week, 332 unique students viewed the guide. Assuming these were all first-years, this would represent 24.68% of the Class of 2026.

Future Goals and Recommendations

While the first-year guide was a successful first edition, several potential options exist for its future. These recommendations are summarized below:



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- Alter the format of future editions of the first-year guide to improve readability and usability. Options could include an independent website, adding the information to the USG website, or visually streamlining the document.
- Post signage around campus prior to the arrival of first-years to allow for more students to access the resource in the first few days of orientation.
- Coordinate with RCAs (informally*) to increase usage and improve roll-out to first-years
 - *It is advised that the first-year guide remains student-run and separate from university-made orientation materials to ensure authenticity and open dialogue with first-years.



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Reform Project:

From Brian Li, CEM:

I believe that the updated DEM proposal is now better aligned with the role and work of the elections team. For further context, the current election team has one CEM and two EMs, and I am able to delegate to them any of the following responsibilities:

- Publicize each election
- Publish the necessary forms for candidate registration prescribed by the Senate in the election rules under section 805(d)
- Organize the tabulation of electronic votes in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar, ODUS, and, if applicable, the IT Chair
- Announce the results and vote counts of each election
- Announce the results and vote counts for any referendum and any recall.
- Investigate each alleged violation of the election rules established under section 802 and determine if a violation has occurred.



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Senate Resolution X-2022

Submitted by ISABELLA SHUTT '24, Campus & Community Affairs Chair, BRAIDEN AARONSON '25, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair, U-Councilor DILLION GALLAGHER '23, Senators SEAN BRADELY '24 and WALKER PENFIELD '25, and CHARLOTTE SELOVER '25, Executive Secretary of the Senate.

Resolution

Amending the Elections Handbook and Senate Constitution to create and define the role of Deputy Elections Manager.

Explanation:

It is exceedingly difficult for one person to be solely responsible for running every USG election, due to the demanding time commitment of each election cycle. Currently, Section 801 of the Senate Constitution allows for the delegation of duties from the Chief Elections Manager to an Elections Manager. Elections Manager is not a required position nor is it defined well enough to give the Chief Elections Manager confidence in their ability to distribute work.

This resolution creates the required position of Deputy Elections Manager, updating the Constitutional and Elections Handbook language regarding delegation of duties, and adding a Suggested Practice for describing the roles of the Chief Elections Manager (CEM) and Deputy Elections Manager (DEM).

Resolved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student Government,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS TO SENATE CONSTITUTION Sections

202(a), 801, and 302(e) of the Senate Constitution are amended as follows.

§ 202. Nonvoting Senate Members

(a) REQUIRED NONVOTING SENATE MEMBERS.—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with subsection (c), the President shall appoint each of the following nonvoting Senate members:

- (1) Two Projects Board Co-Chairs.
- (2) One Executive Secretary.
- (3) One Chief Elections Manager.
- (4) One Deputy Elections Manager.**
- ~~(5)~~ One SGRC Chair.

§ 302. Review of Information and Actions

(e) OVERTURNING ACTIONS OF ELECTIONS MANAGERS.—In a standing rule established under section 406, the Senate may specify procedures and voting thresholds



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for overturning an action of the Chief Elections Manager or ~~an~~ *the Deputy* Elections Manager.

§ 801. Chief and Deputy Elections Managers Generally

(a) CHIEF ELECTIONS MANAGER.—Subject to Senate confirmation in accordance with section 202(c), the President and Senior Class President shall jointly appoint the Chief Elections Manager.

(b) *DEPUTY* ELECTIONS MANAGERS.—The President, Senior Class President, and Chief Elections Manager ~~may shall~~ jointly appoint ~~up to 2~~ *the Deputy* Elections Managers ~~for each election.~~

(c) PROHIBITION ON RUNNING FOR OFFICE.—The Chief Elections Manager and ~~each~~ *the Deputy* Elections Manager shall not run for office while serving in their official capacities.

(d) DUTIES.—The Chief Elections Manager shall:

(1) In accordance with this article and the election rules established under section 802, oversee and have final responsibility for each election.

(2) Publicize each election.

(3) Run at least two rules meetings, of which candidates and referendum sponsors must attend at least one, for each election cycle.

(4) If appropriate, organize a candidate forum during an election cycle. (3 5)

Publish the necessary forms for candidate registration prescribed by the Senate in the election rules under section 805(d).

~~(4 6)~~ Organize the tabulation of electronic votes in conjunction with the Office of the Registrar, ODUS, and, if applicable, the IT Chair.

~~(5 7)~~ Announce the results and vote counts of each election.

~~(6 8)~~ Announce the results and vote counts for any referendum and any recall. ~~(7 9)~~

Investigate each alleged violation of the election rules established under section 802 and determine if a violation has occurred.

~~(8 10)~~ Each day during an election cycle, communicate updates on the violation of election rules.

~~(9 11)~~ Assign the appropriate penalty to a candidate who has violated the election rules established under section 802.

~~(10 12)~~ Before an appeal to the Senate in accordance with the election rules established under section 802, serve as the arbiter of any dispute among candidates.

~~(e) CANDIDATE FORUM.—The Chief Elections Manager may organize a candidate forum during an election cycle.~~

~~(f e)~~ DELEGATION TO *DEPUTY* ELECTIONS MANAGERS.—The Chief Elections Manager ~~may shall, at their discretion,~~ delegate a duty provided in subsection (d)(2) through



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~~(d)(10) (d)(9) or in subsection (e)~~ to ~~the an~~ *Deputy* Elections Manager.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS TO ELECTIONS HANDBOOK Section 102 of the Elections Handbook is amended as follows. Appendix B is added to the Elections Handbook, shifting the currently labeled Appendices B through G to become Appendices C through H, respectively. The language of Appendix A shall be updated to reflect the amended Constitutional language from Section 1 above.

§ 102. Elections Managers

(b) DELEGATION OF DUTIES.—

(1) CHIEF ELECTIONS MANAGER.—In accordance with section 801(d)(1) of the Senate Constitution and these election rules, the Chief Elections Manager shall oversee and have final responsibility for each election.

(2) DELEGATION TO *DEPUTY OTHER* ELECTIONS MANAGERS.—In accordance with section 801(~~f~~ *e*) of the Senate Constitution, the Chief Elections Manager may delegate any of the following duties to ~~the Deputy another~~ Elections Manager:

(A) A duty provided in section 801(d)(2) through 801(d)(~~9 10~~ *or in section 801(e)*) of the Senate Constitution.

(B) A duty provided in these election rules, unless the election rules specify otherwise.

(3) DELEGATION TO OTHER SENATE MEMBERS.—For any duty provided in these election rules that involves publishing information, an Elections Manager may delegate the technical action of publishing the information to another Senate member.

~~(4) DELEGATION TO OTHERS PROHIBITED.—An Elections Manager may delegate a duty provided in paragraph (2) only to another Elections Manager, except when paragraph (3) allows such delegation.~~

Suggested Practice 1-1.

It is inadvisable to appoint a voting Senate member or a Class Government officer as an Elections Manager.



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Suggested Practice 1-2.

The Chief Elections Manager may use the role descriptions provided in Appendix B to determine the delegation of duties to the Deputy Elections Manager. The Senate may also find this resource useful when recruiting and onboarding Chief and Deputy Elections Managers.

APPENDIX B—SUGGESTED DELEGATION OF DUTIES

The following role descriptions are meant to support the Chief Elections Manager when exercising the powers of Section 801 of the Senate Constitution by more specifically outlining potential delegation of duties to the Deputy Elections Manager. Note, the Senate Constitution supersedes all recommendations found in these descriptions.

The Deputy Elections Manager:

- (a) attends Rules Meetings for candidates and assists in organizing as needed;***
- (b) generates electronic forms for petition signature collection, as described in §402(d) of the Handbook;***
- (c) assists with the review of completed candidate registration forms (CRF) and petitions (duties split by CEM's discretion)***
- (d) creates draft ballots;***
- (e) assists with the review of candidate expense reports (duties split by CEM's discretion);***
- (f) advises CEM on decisions (CEM's discretion);***
- (g) communicates with ODUS regarding the use of elections management software; and***
- (h) shares responsibility with the CEM for responding to questions from potential and current candidates sent to the Elections Inbox, using language directly from the Elections Handbook. Defers to the CEM when a question cannot be answered by the Handbook.***

The Chief Elections Manager:

- (a) recruits and advises the DEM;***
- (b) runs both Rules Meetings;***
- (c) shares responsibility with the CEM for responding to questions from potential and current candidates sent to the Elections Inbox, using language directly from the Elections***



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Handbook. Defers to the CEM when a question cannot be answered by the Handbook.

- (d) coordinates the delegation of duties to the DEM as described above;*
- (e) makes final decisions regarding the acceptance of late paperwork and the assignment of penalty points;*
- (f) investigates complaints and acts as arbiter of candidate disputes;*
- (g) sets the elections timeline with assistance from the Parliamentarian; and*
- (h) reviews the Elections Handbook with the Parliamentarian and suggests temporary and permanent changes to the Senate, during each academic year.*

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Following a 2/3 vote of approval by the Senate at two consecutive meetings, this Resolution becomes effective immediately following the Winter 2022 election cycle.

Approved , 2022.

Members in Favor __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

Members Opposed __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

Members Abstaining __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

HANNAH KAPOOR '23,
*Vice President of the Undergraduate Student Government and
Presiding Officer of the Senate.*

Attest:

CHARLOTTE SELOVER '25,
Executive Secretary of the Senate.



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Senate Resolution X-2022

Submitted by Senators MARIAM LATIF '24, WALKER PENFIELD '25, and SEAN BRADLEY '24, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Chair BRAIDEN AARONSON '25, Campus & Community Affairs Chair ISABELLA SHUTT '24, and Executive Secretary CHARLOTTE SELOVER '25,

Resolution

Establishing a special rule requiring voting members to serve on at least one Senate Core Committee.

Explanation:

Currently, Senate committees are mostly filled with members of the student body who are not involved with the USG otherwise. This leads to committee chairs facing difficulties staffing their committees with enough engaged members to fulfill their duties. Having members of the USG on committees beyond the respective chairs may also foster a more collaborative Senate. Some committees also tackle policy issues that are less appealing to the student body, leading to the majority of the workload falling on chairs.

To better support committees, this resolution would require voting members of the Senate to serve on at least one committee. This will ensure that every committee has enough active members to execute their advocacy work and programming effectively.

The Executive Committee may vote to grant an exemption to this rule, for example in the case that a voting Senate member:

- serves as the chair or co-chair of an Ad-Hoc committee.
- is facing personal circumstances that would prevent them from serving on a committee

Resolved by the Senate of the Undergraduate Student

Government, **SECTION 1. CREATION**

In accordance with Section 406 of the Senate Constitution, *Rules; Parliamentary Authority of the Senate Constitution*¹, the Senate adopts a new requirement that each Senator and U-Councilor serves as a member of at least one Core Committee, unless granted an exemption by the Executive Committee.

SECTION 2. RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

¹ Section 406(a) states, "By a 2/3 vote, the Senate may adopt any special or standing rule that it considers necessary for its orderly and efficient operation."

The Executive Committee shall determine the process by which Senate members are selected to serve on Core Committees so that each voting member has the opportunity to fulfill this requirement. The Executive Committee shall also determine, by a majority vote, if a voting Senate member shall be exempt from this requirement.



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SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

Following a 2/3 vote of approval by the Senate, Sections 1 and 2 of this resolution become effective at the start of the Spring 2023 semester.

Approved , 2022.

Members in Favor __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

Members Opposed __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

Members Abstaining __: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

_____.

HANNAH KAPOOR '23,
*Vice President of the Undergraduate Student Government and
Presiding Officer of the Senate.*

Attest:

CHARLOTTE SELOVER '25,
Executive Secretary of the Senate.