



Submitted to AUS Council February 10th, 2016

Motion to Hold Winter Referendum Period and Departmental Association Elections

Whereas, dates of the Winter Referendum period must accord with the AUS Electoral Bylaws, in particular the following sections:

1.10 "Elections shall be held between January 15 and April 1. If necessary, by-elections may take place between September 15 and December 1. Referenda shall be held between September 15 and December 1 or between January 15 and April 1."

2.9 "The CRO shall submit for the approval of Council the following dates: the nomination period, the campaign period, and the polling period."

4.8 "Referendum periods shall be announced to the members of the Society through the elections listserv at least three (3) working days prior to the opening of the campaign period."

6.3 "The polling period shall last no less than three (3) working days and shall close when the campaign period closes."

6.6 "All ballots shall be cast through an online voting system, which shall use the highest security encryption that is reasonably available to Elections AUS."

Whereas, referenda make it possible to amend the AUS Constitution as well as change or introduce any AUS fees;

Whereas according to article 2.1 of the AUS Departmental Electoral Bylaws "Elections AUS shall administer all annual departmental elections required under Article 8 Section 2 of the AUS Constitution ("Departmental Associations Electoral must hold annual elections in accordance with the AUS Departmental Association Electoral By-Laws and their Constitutions")."

Whereas, dates of Departmental Association elections must accord with the AUS Departmental Electoral Bylaws, in particular the following sections:

1.5 Elections shall be held between January 15 and April 1. If necessary, by-elections may take place between September 15 and December 1.

3.1 The nomination period shall be a minimum of five (5) working days, closing at 5:00 PM on the last day. The nomination period for any elected position shall be extended by a minimum of two (2) days if fewer than two (2) candidates are nominated for that position.



4.1 The campaign period shall last no less than five (5) working days. Campaigning shall not be permitted before the opening of the campaign period.

5.1 The polling period shall last no less than three (3) working days

Whereas, Departmental Associations may apply for exemptions from the AUS Departmental Electoral period according to the following sections of the AUS Departmental Electoral Bylaws;

2.2 Elections Clause Exemption: Departmental associations may request an exemption with cause from the provisions contained in Article 8 Section 2 of the AUS Constitution.

2.3 Article Five Exemptions: Departmental associations may request an exemption with cause from the provisions contained in Article 5 ("Polling") of these Departmental Association Electoral Bylaws.

2.3.1 Applications for the aforementioned exemptions shall include a detailed proposal for an alternative electoral process. Applications shall be submitted to Elections AUS no later than February 21 and approved or denied by the AUS Executive Committee no later than March 1.

2.4 Inter-faculty departmental associations shall be granted a de facto exemption from the provisions contained in Article 8 Section 2 of the AUS Constitution.

Whereas, both the AUS Chief Returning Officer and Departmental Associations have been consulted when selecting these proposed electoral timelines;

Be it resolved, that a referendum period be called with the following dates according to the AUS Electoral Bylaws:

- Last Council to approve referendum questions: Wednesday, February 24th (?)
- Last day to submit referendum questions by petition: Friday, February 26th at 5 pm
- Questions sent out to students in both languages via listserv: Wednesday, March 16th
- Last day to form referendum committees: Thursday, March 17th at 5 pm
- Campaigning Period: Monday, March 21st at 9:00 am- Thursday, March 31st at 5:00 pm
- Polling: Wednesday, March 23rd at 9:00 am-Thursday March 31st at 5:00 pm

Be it further resolved, that a departmental electoral period be called with the following dates according to the AUS Departmental Electoral Bylaws:

- Email regarding election (sent by departmental listservs): By Monday, March 7th
- Nomination Period: Thursday, March 10th 9:00 am –Wednesday, March 16th at 5:00pm
- Extended Nomination Period: Thursday, March 17th-Friday, March 18th at 5:00 pm
- Campaigning Period: Monday, March 21st at 9:00 am- Thursday, March 31st at 5:00 pm
- Polling: Wednesday, March 23 at 9:00 am-Thursday, March 31 at 5:00 pm



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