Wayne State University
Student Senate
February 15, 2024

<u>**Resolution 2324-17**</u>

By-Law Amendment
Rachel John, *Parliamentarian*
Rabika Ali, Dhruval Bhatt, Finnley Culhane, *Parliamentary Committee*

A resolution to amend the Wayne State University Student Senate bylaws as presented.

THE WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE ENACT:

——BY-LAW AS WRITTEN————————————————————————
ARTICLE VI
Section 2

MEETINGS POLICY

A. The Senate may go into closed session subject to the terms outlined below, at which point no one other than Senate members, alternates, and/or the advisor may be present.

    i. Closed meetings

        a. For elections, personal items, resolutions, or upon request

        b. 2⁄3 of voting members (in attendance) must agree on this.

        c. In the event of a vacancy election or other type of election, the option of a closed meeting must be announced. In this situation, the public must be excused from the room.

            i. A closed interview or discussion will automatically go into effect at the (minimum) of one (1) request by a candidate or Senator, regardless of the other candidates' or Senators' preferences for the duration of the discussion. Candidates have the right to choose if their interview is public or private.

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A. The Senate may go into closed session subject to the terms outlined below, at which point no one other than Senate members, alternates, and/or the advisor may be present.

    i. Closed meetings

        a. For elections, personal items, resolutions, or upon request

        b. 2⁄3 of voting members (in attendance) must agree on this.

        c. Candidates have the right to choose if their interview is public or private. In the event of a vacancy election or other type of election, the option of a closed meeting must be communicated at least 24 hours prior to the election. The decision will then be made immediately before the election. ~~In this situation, the public must be excused from the room.~~

            i. A closed interview and discussion will automatically go into effect at the (minimum) of one (1) request by a candidate (including Senators running for the position), regardless of the other candidates' ~~or Senators'~~ preferences for the duration of the discussion. In this situation, the public must be excused from the room. ~~Candidates have the right to choose if their interview is public or private.~~

———*RATIONALE* ———————————————————

The WSU Student Senate recognizes that clarity and transparency should be the foundation of our bylaws. For this reason, we have amended **Article VI**, *Section 2* as follows:

- *"In this situation, the public must be excused from the room"*
    - → This line was moved from section *c* to section *c(i)* as the latter's subject matter is more closely focused on closed interviews.

- *"Including Senators running for the position"*
    - → This line states that the wishes of those running in the election, including current senators, are the number #1 priority. Senators who are not running may not overrule the decision of those in the election.

- *"Candidates have the right to choose if their interview is public or private"*
    - → This line was moved from section c(*i)* to section *c* as the latter's subject matter is more closely focused on interviews as a whole.

- *"Communicated 24 hours prior", "immediately before the elections"*
    - o This line explicitly states the recurring role of the President in this process to ensure candidates are aware of the choices they are entitled to.

- *"Interview and discussion"*
    - o This new phrasing clarifies that if the interview is closed, then the discussion must be closed.

MOVED to **APPROVE THE BYLAW CHANGES AS PRESENTED** by: Senator **EZZEDDINE** AND **SECONDED** by: Senator **HOSARI**.

INTRODUCED ON   2/9/24   TO THE   PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

COMMITTEE ACTION   X   UNANIMOUS   2/9/24

                    PASSED   FAILED   VOTE   DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN   X   UNANIMOUS   2/15/24

                    PASSED   FAILED   VOTE   DATE

VOTED APPROVED BY:

_____   _____

PRESIDENT: Hayden Johnson   **SECRETARY: Rabika Ali**