

Proposal to Amend Society of Women Engineers Bylaws

Proposal #	Description	Article	Section	Proposed by
S-2201	Amend Article IV and V on vacancies <i>Standardize the vacancy process for the senate and board of directors and allow for an alternate process when a vacancy occurs within ninety days of the term completion.</i>	IV	6	<i>Cherie Cain, Alison Bergmann, Heather Bernardin, Kaitlyn Bunker, Stacey DelVecchio, Stephanie Loete, Alexis McKittrick, Shelley Stracener, Cassandra Zook</i>
		V	4	

<u>Current Language:</u>	<u>Proposed Changes:</u>	<u>If Adopted:</u>
<p><u>ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u> <u>Section 6. Vacancy</u></p> <p>A. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the president elect for the remainder of the term, followed by one full term as president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in the office of president elect shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy.</p> <p>C. A vacancy in any other member-elected board position shall be filled by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy.</p>	<p><u>ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u> <u>Section 6. Vacancy</u></p> <p>A. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the president elect for the remainder of the term, followed by one full term as president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in the office of president elect shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy.</p> <p>C. A vacancy in any other member-elected board position shall be filled by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs ninety days or less before the end of the term, the Society president will appoint a replacement.</p>	<p><u>ARTICLE IV – BOARD OF DIRECTORS</u> <u>Section 6. Vacancy</u></p> <p>A. A vacancy in the office of president shall be filled by the president elect for the remainder of the term, followed by one full term as president.</p> <p>B. A vacancy in the office of president elect shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy.</p> <p>C. A vacancy in any other member-elected board position shall be filled by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs ninety days or less before the end of the term, the Society president will appoint a replacement.</p>

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<p><u>ARTICLE V – SENATE</u> <u>Section 4. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Senate Secretary</u></p> <p>C. Vacancy</p> <p>1. A vacancy in the position of speaker shall be filled by the deputy speaker for the remainder of the term.</p> <p>2. A vacancy in a senator, deputy speaker, or senate secretary position shall be filled by election within sixty days according to senate policy.</p>	<p><u>ARTICLE V – SENATE</u> <u>Section 4. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Senate Secretary</u></p> <p>C. Vacancy</p> <p>1. A vacancy in the position of speaker shall be filled by the deputy speaker for the remainder of the term.</p> <p>2. A vacancy in a senator, deputy speaker, or senate secretary position shall be filled by the membership election within sixty days according to senate policy of the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs ninety days or less before the end of the term, the Society president will appoint a replacement.</p>	<p><u>ARTICLE V – SENATE</u> <u>Section 4. Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and Senate Secretary</u></p> <p>C. Vacancy</p> <p>1. A vacancy in the position of speaker shall be filled by the deputy speaker for the remainder of the term.</p> <p>2. A vacancy in a senator, deputy speaker, or senate secretary position shall be filled by the membership within sixty days of the vacancy. If the vacancy occurs ninety days or less before the end of the term, the Society president will appoint a replacement.</p>
<p><u>Conforming Amendment:</u></p> <p>None</p>		

Rationale:

This proposed amendment will standardize the vacancy process for the senate and board of directors as well as allow for an alternative process when a vacancy occurs within ninety days of the term completion.

Pros:

Benefits of adoption of the proposed amendment include:

- This amendment defines an alternative process for filling a vacancy that occurs near the end of a term when Society elections are completed. This approach alleviates the cost to process an additional election and eliminates the vacancy process requirements for members, nominating committee, and staff when the fiscal year is concluding.

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- Board of directors and senate vacancies are slated by the nominating committee, the Society's authority for filling slated Society positions using procedures defined within the Election Manual rather than multiple locations.
- Senate vacancies are now consistent with filling other Society slated positions within a sixty-day time window.

Cons:

The following items have been identified as potential risks and/or topics that will require education or action in the implementation plan:

- Vacancies appointed by the president do not involve membership input.

Action Items:

Senate secretary to align Senate Procedures with these bylaws changes.

Nominating committee chair to align Election Manual with these bylaws changes.