



Senate Resolution

71st Student Senate

Senate Resolution #: 73

Sponsored by: Alvarez

WHEREAS: No procedures currently exist for removing Senate Presidents or Senate President Pro Tempores by any means other than impeachment, and

WHEREAS: Rule 5.4 i. of the 71st Student Senate states, "A Chair or Vice-Chair may be removed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the committee they serve on...", and

WHEREAS: Article II, Section 5., Clause A.1. states, "(Senate shall) Enact its own Rules of Procedure, which shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote", therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SEVENTY-FIRST STUDENT SENATE THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY THAT: Student Senate Rules of Procedure be amended as follows:

PART I: SENATE STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

RULE ONE: Election, and Vacancies, and Removal of the Office of Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore

- 1.1 Following the Fall Inauguration and installation of the new Student Senate, the Student Body Vice President shall call to order an organizational meeting of the Senate for the purpose of electing a Student Senate President. During that meeting, the Senate Rules of Procedure from the previous session shall be adopted in order to conduct business.
- 1.2 At least three-fourths of the membership of The Senate must be present in order for the election of the Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore to occur. Election shall be by secret ballot and shall require a majority vote in order to elect a candidate. If no candidate receives a majority, a runoff election will be held between the two candidates who received the most votes in the first round.
- 1.3 In the case that Student Body Vice-President is unable to chair the meeting, the most senior Senator will assume the chair. If he or she accepts a nomination for Student Senate President, then the next most senior Senator will chair, and so on. The Chairperson, shall have the right to cast a vote for election of the Student Senate President in such cases where his/her vote would be decisive.
- 1.4 Nominations for Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall be taken from the floor and shall require a second. The Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall be elected from among the membership of the Senate.
- 1.5 Each candidate shall be allowed, in alphabetical order, to give a presentation to the Senate for no more than five (5) minutes. Immediately following each candidate's presentation, no more than two (2) Senators will be allowed to address a question to the candidate who just presented. The Chairperson shall allow two minutes of pro-debate per

candidate. No con- debate shall be permitted during the election process. All nominees not addressing the Senate shall be requested to exit the chambers when not speaking, including during all debate on the candidates. Upon the completion of the final vote all nominees may enter the Chambers.

- 1.6 Upon election, the Student Senate President shall immediately take the oath prescribed for Student Body Officers in §202.7, Student Body Statutes, assume the chair, and proceed with the election of the Student Senate President Pro Tempore. The Student Senate President shall have the right to cast a vote for the election of the Student Senate President Pro Tempore in such cases where his/her vote would be decisive. The Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall be administered the same oath and assume office immediately upon election. The oath shall be administered by the presiding officer at the time of the election. The Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore are to continue in office until their successors are chosen and qualified or until the expiration of their term, whichever occurs first.
- 1.7 In the event of permanent vacancy in the office of Student Senate President, the Student Senate President Pro Tempore, at the next scheduled Senate meeting, shall assume the chair and immediately call for election of a new Student Senate President following the same procedure above. If the current Student Senate President Pro Tempore is nominated for the office of Student Senate President, or the positions of Student Senate President and Student Senate President Pro Tempore are vacant simultaneously, the following shall be the order of succession: Chairperson of Judiciary, Chairperson of Internal Affairs, Chairperson of Budget, Chairperson of Finance, and Chairperson of Student Affairs. Any person in this line of succession who shall become acting Student Senate President shall have only the authority to sign bills waiting to go to the Student Body President, call the next immediate meeting of the Student Senate and conduct the election for the new Student Senate President. In the case where the President Pro Tempore and all Committee Chairpersons are nominated or unable to Chair, then the Student Body Vice President shall immediately assume the chair for the purposes of conduction the election. The Student Senate President Pro Tempore shall reserve the right to retain their position as Student Senate President Pro Tempore if they are nominated and do not win.
- 1.8 In the event the members of the Senate believe that the Senate President should be removed from their position and a new Election for Senate President be held, any member may, at any time, make a motion of no-confidence and shall require a second. The Senate President Pro Tempore shall then assume the chair, and the Senator who made the motion shall present their motion pursuant to the structure of debate described in Rule Eleven. At no time shall the presiding officer allow any debate that involves personal attacks or slander against the Senate President, although pertinent debate related to character and suitability for office shall be permitted. For the motion of no-confidence to pass, a vote by iClicker shall be cast and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority with no less than three-fourths of the membership of the Senate being present. Following passage of the motion of no-confidence, the Senate President Pro Tempore shall immediately call for the election of a new Student Senate President following the same procedure above.
- 1.9 In the event the members of the Senate believe that the Senate President Pro Tempore should be removed from their position and a new Election for Senate President Pro Tempore be held, any member may, at any time, make a motion of no-confidence and shall require a second. The Chairperson next in the line of succession shall assume as


acting Pro Tempore, and the Senator who made the motion shall present their motion pursuant to the structure of debate described in Rule Eleven. At no time shall the presiding officer allow any debate that involves personal attacks or slander against the Senate President Pro Tempore, although pertinent debate related to character and suitability for office shall be permitted. For the motion of no-confidence to pass, a vote by iClicker shall be cast and shall require a two-thirds (2/3) majority with no less than three-fourths of the membership of the Senate being present. Following passage of the motion of no-confidence, the Senate President shall immediately call for the election of a new Student Senate President Pro Tempore following the same procedure above.

1.10 Motions of no-confidence may only be used against one Senate Leader at a time, and may not be abused for purposes that would result in violations of the Senate Conduct Code, most notably those of obstruction, delays, or other interferences with Senate business for partisan reasons.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: A copy of this resolution be sent to the following:

David Higgins, Student Senate President
Jack Denton, Student Senate President Pro Tempore
Stephanie Lee, Vice President of the Student Body
Dr Danielle Morgan Acosta, Director
Ben Young, SGA Webmaster

OFFICIALS:



Student Senate President



Director of Student Governance & Advocacy

**SENATE VOTE: 30Y-0N-0A
PASSED: 23rd of October, 2019**