

AUSA Constitutional Changes

Proposer: Ondrej Kučerák (Vice-President for Education)

Seconders: Ivana Drdáková (Vice-President for Welfare), Camilo Torres Barragán (Vice-President for Communities)

Change 1 – Referenda

AGM notes:

That referenda rules have not been consistent throughout the AUSA constitution, often requiring different amounts of votes for same outcomes.

That having % threshold is making quorum grow very exponentially with the expansion of the university's online offering, and trans-national education expansion. That when originally written in 2016, 10% accounted for about 1,300-1,600 students, while now it is around 2,300-2,400 and expected to increase beyond 3,000 in less than two academic years.

That putting it as a static number of 1,000 removes the confusion over quoracy, and makes referenda slightly more accessible tool for students to achieve change.

That any relevant changes to Byelaw 2 (Referenda) should be taken forward by AUSA management and the AUSA Trustee board, and once finalized they will be sent to Student Council for noting.

AGM resolves:

To make changes to reflect this proposal to the sections 12.2, 19.3, 20, 24, 56.1 and 59.2.1. as specified in the attached document.

Change 2 – Replacement of Sabbaticals

AGM notes:

That currently, if Sabbatical officers leave on or after 2nd of August their post will remain vacant, taking away the right of elected representative by the student body.

That there currently is not sufficient infrastructure to make up for a missing sabbatical for an entire year, and the workload of the other sabbaticals are not suitable to take on more responsibility.

That pushing that boundary to 1st of November, adding 3 more months to the process will be a better option.

That the reasoning behind not going further is the timeline of the election, which takes up about 4-5 weeks, combined with legal education act of 1994 allowing only 2 terms of office. It is seen that being in office for shorter than 6 months would make it unfair to count towards this limit, and as such the post would remain vacant at that point.

AGM resolves:

To make changes to reflect this proposal to the sections 60 and 61 as specified in the attached document.

Change 3 – Wording updates

AGM notes:

That there's contradictory and outdated wording in some sections and updating them will add clarity to the text.

AGM resolves:

To use of the term "Vice-Chair" as opposed to "Deputy Chair" in section 30.
To update the definition of Academic Year in section 101.1 which currently defines it roughly between mid-September and mid-May to a new definition that will encompass the whole year from August to July, and therefore reflect the inclusion of Postgraduate Taught timelines.