

Student Government

CHARTER

[As amended January 23, 2011]

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1. Mission

- 1.1. The Yale School of Management ("SOM") Student Government is the principal means by which students collectively shape their SOM experience and the experience of future classes. The institution fosters communication, respect and understanding among students, faculty, staff and alumni in order to maintain and enhance the Yale School of Management's unique place in the field of business education.
- 1.2. The Student Government will be the chief voice of the students to
 - 1.2.1. Advise SOM's administration on student issues.
 - 1.2.2.Develop thoughtful solutions to concerns as they arise.
 - 1.2.3. Work with the administration to help SOM excel in the areas of
 - 1.2.3.1. Student Life
 - 1.2.3.2. Student Clubs
 - 1.2.3.3. Academic Life
 - 1.2.3.4. Career Development
 - 1.2.3.5. Alumni Relations
 - 1.2.3.6. Admissions
 - 1.2.3.7. Student and Academic Services
 - 1.2.3.8. IT and Facilities

2. Structure

- 2.1. Elected Positions
 - 2.1.1.A total of 31 students will be elected to positions in the student government.
 - 2.1.2. The student government will have one president, who will be elected as a first year student in the spring semester and will be a second year student during his or her sitting term, 14 permanent standing committee chairs from each of the first and second year classes, along with a uniquely-elected and uniquely-represented position for each Cohort and two General Representatives from each of the first and second year classes.

- 2.1.3.The student government shall have seven permanent standing committees: The Academic Affairs, Administrative, Admissions, Career Development, Alumni, Student Life, and Clubs & Finance Committees.^{vi}
- 2.1.4.One first year and one second year student are elected by their respective classes to cochair each standing committee.

2.2. Appointed positions vii

- 2.2.1.One second year student will serve in the role of Vice President.
- 2.2.2.The Vice President will be nominated by the President and confirmed with a two-thirds vote by the government by the second meeting of the new government.

2.3. Committees

2.3.1.Membership

- 2.3.1.1. Any student government member may belong to any committee.
- 2.3.1.2. In order to provide the student government with maximum flexibility, support, and talent, all committees have the option of involving students from the broader student body in one or more of their committee activities. Some of these student volunteers will be involved only on a short-term basis, for example helping with logistics for a particular event. There is no formal process governing the involvement of these volunteers although one may be designed in the future if necessary.
- 2.3.1.3. Non-voting committee volunteers, who are not elected members of the student government, should be selected in a fair and impartial manner. When a committee approves specific volunteers working in their committee, the names of each volunteer will be published. viii

2.3.2.Standing Committees

- 2.3.2.1. Standing committees are permanent and address issues central to the mission of the Student Government.
- 2.3.2.2. Each standing committee contains two representatives, specifically elected to chair that committee, as well as a minimum of three other elected representatives.
- 2.3.2.3. At full government, each standing committee must have a minimum of five members. The Student Life committee will be made up of at least six committee members. ix

2.3.3.Flex Committees

- 2.3.3.1. Flex committees are also permanent and are created to manage business essential to the Student Government not covered by the six standing committees. Flex committees can be created at the President's recommendation and a vote by the government of two-thirds majority.
- 2.3.3.2. Flex committees are chaired by one or two Student Representatives. The flex committees may have between two and five members depending on the anticipated workload of the committee.
- 2.3.3.3. These committees remain in existence until, at the President's recommendation, the government votes in a two-thirds majority to disband them.
- 2.3.3.4. Choosing Flex Committee Chairs
 - 2.3.3.4.1. The President is the default chair of the Communications Committee but may appoint a different elected member to the post if the President desires. Volunteers will be sought to chair the remaining flex committees, though Cohort and General Representatives shall be given priority. In the case that all other Cohort and General Representatives already chair a flex committee or Standing Committee subcommittee, a Standing Committee chair shall be permitted to submit his or her name for flex committee chairmanship. ^x
 - 2.3.3.4.2. If more than two candidates are interested in a flex committee chair, the government will select the chairs by secret ballot vote.
 - 2.3.3.4.3. If there are three candidates for a flex committee chair, the government will vote and award the chair position to the top two vote getters.
 - 2.3.3.4.4. If there are more than three candidates for a flex committee chair, the government will vote once in plurality fashion to reduce the field to three candidates, and then vote pursuant to Section 2.3.3.4.3.

2.3.4. Ad hoc Committees

- 2.3.4.1. Ad hoc committees have a shorter-term lifespan and are created as specific needs arise with a two-thirds vote of the Student Government.
- 2.3.4.2. The positions will be advertised to all students in SOM's weekly e-News and Bi-Weekly Student Government Newsletter. All ad hoc committees will expire at

- the end of the academic year, but may be reconstituted following the above voting process during the following academic year.
- 2.3.4.3. Any student, elected or not, may chair an ad hoc committee, but must be nominated by a member of the government and confirmed with a two-thirds vote of the student government. Ad hoc committees may have one or two chairpersons.
- 2.3.4.4. Ad hoc committees may be reconstituted as flex committees with a two-thirds majority vote of the student government.
- 2.3.4.5. In order to select students to chair ad hoc committees, the government will follow the procedure delineated in Sections 2.3.3.4.2 2.3.3.4.4.

2.4. Term Duration

- 2.4.1. First-year representatives elected in the fall to first-year positions will begin their term at the first government meeting following the election and end their term at the first government meeting following the spring election.
- 2.4.2. First-year representatives elected in the spring to second-year positions will begin their term at the first government meeting following the election and end their term at the first government meeting following the next spring election.

3. Responsibilities for Elected Positions

3.1. All Elected Positions

- 3.1.1.Each co-chair of a standing committee must serve on at least one additional committee.
- 3.1.2.If a representative is not chairing a committee, he or she must serve on at least two core committees.^{xi}
- 3.1.3. No representative may serve on greater than four committees.
- 3.1.4.Representatives drive the process of identifying problems, forming solutions, presenting them to the student government and to their faculty or staff counterparts.
- 3.1.5. Central to the process of identifying problems and forming solutions is communication with the broader student body. Representatives are expected to be available to their classmates and to draw on student input as they work within their committees.
- 3.1.6.Representatives will develop suggestions and solutions for the administration that are realistic and thoughtful.

3.2. President

- 3.2.1. Primary communicator with the administration.
 - 3.2.1.1. Recognized voice of the student government.
 - 3.2.1.2. Meets privately once monthly with the Dean.
 - 3.2.1.2.1. Presents update of student government activities, initiatives, issues identified and potential solutions.
 - 3.2.1.2.2. May invite other student government members as he or she sees fit.
 - 3.2.1.3. Coordinates meetings of the entire student government with the Dean once per month.
- 3.2.2.Head of the student government
 - 3.2.2.1. Organizes and facilitates the functions of the student government.
 - 3.2.2.2. May elevate issues for consideration by the whole student government from the committee level.
 - 3.2.2.3. The president only votes in cases of a tie, unless there is a conflict of interest.
 - 3.2.2.4. May call unscheduled meetings of student government when necessary.
 - 3.2.2.5. Sets agenda of student government meetings.
 - 3.2.2.6. May charge a committee with special projects/areas of concern.
 - 3.2.2.7. Will review the progress of flex and ad hoc committees unless otherwise delegated.
- 3.2.3. Additional oversight and integrative roles
 - 3.2.3.1. Monthly update to the student body.
 - 3.2.3.2. Formal student government update to the student body once per semester.
 - 3.2.3.3. Assists in the appointment of Honor Committee members; sends three recommendations to the Dean.
 - 3.2.3.4. Receives monthly updates from the SOM GPSS senators.
 - 3.2.3.5. Leads the processes to select the class marshals for graduation, with input from the government. xii xiii

- 3.3. Vice Presidentxiv
 - 3.3.1. Assistant to the President.
 - 3.3.2. Duties as delineated by the President to the nominee and the government before confirmation.
 - 3.3.3. The Vice President does not assume the Presidency in the case of a vacancy in the top spot (see Section 7.2.3).
- 3.4. Academic Affairs Representatives
 - 3.4.1.Review and coordinate bidding process for classes.
 - 3.4.2.Offer input on scheduling and processes.
 - 3.4.3. Work with deans to improve professor teaching performance.
 - 3.4.4.Collect student feedback on course offerings (both breadth and depth.)
 - 3.4.5. May act as ombudsmen for serious student issues with professor(s).
- 3.5. Administrative Representatives^{xv}
 - 3.5.1.Liaise with Student and Academic Services, including coordinating first-year orientation planning and logistics with administration.
 - 3.5.2. Address student facilities and information technology concerns.
 - 3.5.3. Monitor communication between administration and student body.
 - 3.5.4. Oversee the creation and management of ad hoc committees.
 - 3.5.5. Administer and oversee student government elections.
 - 3.5.6. Count votes when an internal student government vote occurs.
 - 3.5.7.Act as government parliamentarian, unless another student government representative is more qualified.
- 3.6. Career Development Office Representatives
 - 3.6.1.Represent student interests to the Career Development Office.
 - 3.6.2. Communicate and coordinate with the CDO.
 - 3.6.3. Support the CDO by reinforcing select, critical CDO messages in communication with the student body.

3.6.4.Collection, filtering and monitoring of student concerns regarding the CDO and general issues that surround job/internship search.

3.7. Alumni Representatives

- 3.7.1.Represent students to the SOM Alumni Association.
- 3.7.2. Promote and facilitate alumni and career speakers and events.
- 3.7.3. Facilitate and monitor of SOM sponsored mentorship programs.

3.8. Student Life Representatives

- 3.8.1.Planning and administer social events for SOM, including formals, happy hours, Commencement Weekend, and holiday parties.
- 3.8.2. Ensure the integration of different social groups within the SOM community (including, partners, families, international students and potentially the greater Yale community.)

3.9. Clubs & Finance Representatives

- 3.9.1. Oversight of coordination of SOM student groups/clubs.
- 3.9.2.Responsible for allocation of student group/club financing/funding requests under \$2,000 per event.
 - 3.9.2.1. Financing/Funding decisions over \$2,000 must be voted on by entire student government with a recommendation from the Student Life Committee.
- 3.9.3. Available to answer questions by student clubs about funding decisions.
- 3.9.4. Oversees the student government budget process.

3.10. Admissions Representatives^{xvi}

- 3.10.1. Liaise with the Admissions Office to coordinate admissions events, communicate with prospective and admitted students, and facilitate student communication and feedback.
- 3.10.2. Facilitate current student outreach to prospective and accepted students.
- 3.10.3. Monitor communication between Admissions Office and Student Body.
- 3.10.4. Coordinate student involvement in on-campus admissions activity, event planning, and logistics with Admissions Office including but not limited to: prospective and admitted student welcome events and outreach.

- 3.10.5. Monitor student volunteer activities for on-campus recruiting efforts including but not limited to: class visit guides, campus tours, club informational sessions, the admissions blog and discussion boards.
- 3.10.6. Act as a student contact point for the Admissions Office and student feedback on admissions.
- 3.10.7. Liaise with student clubs to coordinate applicable admissions and/or prospective student activities.

3.11. GPSS Senators

- 3.11.1. Represent the SOM student body to the Graduate and Professional Student Senate.
- 3.11.2. Focus on issues that cut across all Yale graduate programs.
- 3.11.3. One senator is the lead representative to the student government.
- 3.11.4. All senators are invited to the bi-monthly meetings of the student government, but do not vote. At least one senator must attend.

4. Responsibilities for Committees

4.1. For All Committees

- 4.1.1.Committees cover all issues falling within their committee topic, handling smaller issues within the committee and elevating larger issues to the whole student government.
- 4.1.2. Each committee is responsible for formulating potential solutions prior to presenting issues to the student government, the greater student body, or external entities.
- 4.1.3. Committee chairs will update the student government on developments within their committees.
- 4.1.4. Committees are required to meet at least once per month.

4.2. For Flex and Ad hoc Committees

- 4.2.1.Flex and ad hoc committees and their chairs will fulfill the responsibilities set forth for them by the Student Government at the time of creation.
- 4.2.2. These duties will be delineated in writing by the government within one week of a committee's creation.

5. Procedures

5.1. Robert's Rules of Order shall govern this organization except as specifically provided otherwise in this document, or at the discretion of the president. xvii

5.2. Meetings

- 5.2.1. The student government must meet at least twice per calendar month during the academic year. Meeting cancellations must be agreed upon by a majority of the members.
- 5.2.2.Student government meetings with the Dean will be closed. Other meetings of the entire student government will be open and announced.xviii
- 5.2.3. When necessary, the student government may call for a closed session with a simple majority vote. This vote may apply only to a subsequent meeting, not the present meeting.
- 5.2.4.Individual committee meetings are set at the discretion of the representatives chairing the committee. Meetings may be open or closed at the committee level at the discretion of the chair-persons.

5.3. Voting

- 5.3.1.A quorum shall have occurred when at least half of the representatives, at least one chair of each permanent standing committee and the President (or President's designee) are present.
 - 5.3.1.1. In the spring after the second year representatives have been elected for the following year and until first year representatives have been elected the following fall, 75% attendance by the government will constitute a quorum.
- 5.3.2. Voting shall occur vocally and one of the administrative committee chairs shall record and tally such votes if a Division of the House is requested. Individual votes shall not be made public nor shall overall voting results unless a majority of the student government votes to do so. xix
- 5.3.3.A representative and the President shall retain the right to abstain from any vote they so choose. Representatives must abstain from votes regarding funding if they are involved in an event or chairing a club that is requesting funding.

5.4. Agenda Setting

- 5.4.1. Any representative may submit a topic to be placed on the agenda for a student government meeting. Such submission must be sent to the president at least 96 hours prior to the date of the next meeting.
- 5.4.2. The president must send each student representative the meeting agenda at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. It is the president's prerogative to set the order of issues covered.
- 5.4.3. However, the representatives by a two-thirds vote may
 - 5.4.3.1. Call for the student government to move on to the next topic.
 - 5.4.3.2. Elevate their own topic for discussion.

5.5. Changes to Charter

This Charter is meant to contain general guidelines and instructions for the student government. Any representative may submit a topic contained in this manual for revision or deletion. Revisions will be implemented when at least three-quarters of the voting representatives agree to the change. With presidential consultation, the Administrative Committee is responsible for keeping the Charter up to date. **x*

6. Elections

6.1. Schedule

Two elections will be held yearly for the student government, one in each semester.

6.1.1.Fall Elections

- 6.1.1.1. Fall elections will be held to determine all first-year Representatives. If for some reason, a second-year student elected in the previous spring is unable to serve or abdicates his/her position, that election will be held simultaneously with the first-year election. The standing student government, elected the previous spring, will administer the elections.
- 6.1.1.2. The date of the fall election will be decided by the newly-elected student government following the completion of the spring elections, and shall be held no sooner than one month following the start of first-year orientation.
- 6.1.1.3. The Graduate Professional Student Senate (GPSS) elections will occur simultaneously with the SOM student government elections.

6.1.2. Spring Elections

- 6.1.2.1. In the spring, first year students will run for second-year student government positions. In addition to representative positions, first-year students may run for President for the coming academic year.
 - 6.1.2.1.1. The Presidential election, for which any standing representative may submit his or her name, will be held first.
 - 6.1.2.1.2. After the election of the President, separate elections will be held for all remaining government positions.
- 6.1.2.2. A student may not run at any time (fall or spring elections) for multiple positions as part of the same ballot. Students who run unsuccessfully for a position may submit their name for another position on a ballot held at a later date.

6.1.3. Vacancies xxi

- 6.1.3.1. In advance of an election (whether there are open positions or not), the President will advertise and host an information session for potential candidates.
- 6.1.3.2. In the case of a vacancy on the government after elections, the President will seek interest in the student body and recommend a candidate to the student government for confirmation with a two-thirds vote.

6.2. Eligibility

- 6.2.1.Representatives can only be elected by members of their own graduating class.
- 6.2.2. Joint Degree and Silver Scholar Students
 - 6.2.2.1. Joint degree students are encouraged to run and participate in the SOM student government. However, joint degree students may not run for election in more than two academic years, regardless of the result of the elections.
 - 6.2.2.2. Students are eligible to vote in all general elections—regardless of whether they are physically present on the SOM campus—until but not including the Fall of their final academic year. xxii

6.3. Voting

6.3.1.Presidential Election

Presidential candidates will be rising second year students and elected by classmates of the same graduating year (i.e. other rising second year students). Voting students are allowed one vote per student ballot in the presidential election.

6.3.2. Standing Committee Elections xxiii

Seven candidates are elected as specific representatives that chair one of the seven standing committees. Candidates run for and are elected to a specific position. When a student submits their candidacy for one of these seven positions he/she must specify for which committee chair he/she is are running. Voting students are allowed one vote per position per student ballot in each of the standing committee elections. That is, students are allowed to cast one vote for each of the seven standing committee chairs.

6.3.3. Election of Cohort Representatives

Students may vote for one candidate in their respective cohorts.

6.3.4. Election of General Representatives – First and second year classes^{xxiv}

Students will be given one vote per available seat. The top two vote-getters win the positions. Students may not cast more than one vote for any single candidate. xxvxxvi

6.3.5.Breaking a Tiexxvii

In the case of two candidates receiving the same amount of votes in order to win a specific position, a run-off election will be held. More specifically, a second election will be held between the two (or more) tied candidates within two business days following the initial election. If necessary, the voting process will be repeated until a winner is determined. Any and all run-off elections will be conducted whereby voters receive one vote to cast for the tied candidates. **xxviii**

6.3.6. Logistics

- 6.3.6.1. The election process will be administered by an Election Committee consisting of the Administrative Chair, the President, and the Vice President. xxix
- 6.3.6.2. Self-nominations and student voting will take place electronically. The committee must coordinate with the SOM IT department in the weeks prior to the election to ensure a smooth election process.
- 6.3.6.3. A maximum of \$50 per candidate may be spent on campaign materials (or on their behalf). Candidates may be asked to present receipts from all campaign materials, and are advised to hold onto them until the conclusion of the election. Receipts are for evidentiary purposes only, not for reimbursement.
- 6.3.6.4. All posted election material must receive Administrative Committee and SOM Facilities approval.
- 6.3.6.5. The use of e-mail lists, including cohort, club and class lists, is prohibited. Attempts to send mass e-mails through any means are considered violations of campaign rules. Mass emails are considered those sent to an inordinately large or disconnected group of recipients. Ultimate determination of e-mail rule

infringements rests with the Election Committee. Individual students will be encouraged to report the receipt of campaign e-mail that may be in violation of this rule. xxx

- 6.3.6.6. Two violations of such rules will automatically disqualify a candidate.
- 6.3.6.7. Candidates must read these rules and sign a statement that they understand them, agree to abide by them and respect the consequences of violating them.
- 6.3.6.8. This document will be distributed by the government to all candidates.
- 6.3.6.9. The entire class will be notified of the winning candidates; however the numerical results will not be distributed. *xxxi*

6.4. Candidate Website and IT Communication

The SOM IT department has constructed a candidate site and voting site on the SOM portal. Two weeks prior to commencement of the election process in the fall and spring, a student government representative must contact the IT Director with dates and times for the candidate site to be activated and closed, as well as the voting site. At the conclusion of the election, IT will send the designated student government representative the election tally and results.

6.5. Nominations

- 6.5.1. Nomination Requirements for Candidate
 - 6.5.1.1. An individual may self-nominate for the position of representative or president. In order to secure one's name on the ballot, each candidate must submit the following materials
 - 6.5.1.1.1. position that such candidate is seeking
 - 6.5.1.1.2. a statement of interest
 - 6.5.1.1.3. a brief summary of pre-SOM experience
 - 6.5.1.1.4. a list of anticipated SOM commitments for the coming year
 - 6.5.1.2. Submission of one's candidacy shall be made online through the Student Government elections website and copies of all materials shall be sent to the chair of the Administrative committee who shall accept candidate submissions in accordance with the election calendar announced by the Student Government.
 - 6.5.1.3. Before the voting begins, each representative candidate will have the opportunity to address the student body. The address will include a brief

personal statement. The Administrative Committee has the responsibility of defining length and specific format of the candidate forum and may allow for questions from sitting representatives or the student body.

- 6.5.1.4. Presidential candidates will address the student body with a brief statement, and will also participate in a town hall-style question-and-answer session with all of the other presidential candidates.
- 6.5.2. Student and Academic Services (SAS) Responsibilities **xxiii*

 Prior to voting for the spring election, SAS is responsible for ensuring that all candidates are in good academic standing. This process ensures that elected students will be able to carry out their duties in subsequent semesters. If a student has accumulated a total of eight or more credits with a grade of "pass" or "fail," the SAS is responsible for notifying that student that he or she is not eligible to run for the student body elections. **xxxiii*

7. Impeachment and Removal

- 7.1. Impeachment and Removal of Student Government Representative
 - 7.1.1.Impeachment and removal of a student government member is warranted when that member i) is convicted of an honor code violation, or ii) has acted with gross negligence in his or her duties within the student government.
 - 7.1.2. Any sitting representative can submit another representative for impeachment and removal. The accusing party will be responsible for articulating to the full government why such impeachment and removal are recommended and the accused party will have the opportunity to make a statement on his or her own behalf. The issue is then voted upon by the full sitting Student Government (excluding the accused and accuser), where two-thirds of the voting representatives are required to cast an affirmative vote for representative dismissal.
 - 7.1.3. A violation of the Honor Code by a sitting representative will result in automatic dismissal from the position.
 - 7.1.4.If a student government representative is removed, his or her position will not be filled until the next general election.
- 7.2. Impeachment and Removal of Student Government President
 - 7.2.1. Any sitting representative can submit the President for impeachment and removal. The accusing party will be responsible for articulating to the full government why such impeachment and removal are recommended and the accused party will have the

- opportunity to make a statement on his or her own behalf. The issue is then voted upon by the full sitting Student Government (excluding the accused and accuser), greater than or equal to two-thirds of the voting representatives are required to cause an affirmative vote for further action on the matter.
- 7.2.2.Should the motion pass, the option for presidential dismissal is then put forth to the student body. The students will receive information about the infractions made on the part of the president. The student body will then vote on the proposed removal, removal from office shall occur if two-thirds of the votes cast by the student body are in favor of such action.
- 7.2.3.If a President is voted out of his or her position, a general election will be held for the student body within two business days of the impeachment election, any sitting representative may run for the open presidential position and serve out the remainder of the removed president's term.
- 7.2.4.A violation of the Honor Code by the president will result in automatic dismissal from the position.

8. Budget Process

- 8.1. No later than one month before spring elections, the government will present a student fee recommendation to the Dean of the School of Management.
- 8.2. Student government will simultaneously publish that recommendation on the student government's web site
- 8.3. The recommendation shall include:
 - 8.3.1.a recommendation for the per student activity fee
 - 8.3.2.a budget for student government, including a high-level breakdown of expenditures
 - 8.3.3.a recommended % allocation between Clubs and Social for remainder of student activity fees after student government allocation
 - 8.3.4.at least two years of prior primary allocations and actual expenditures
 - 8.3.5.the amount of the balance brought forward and the buffer
- 8.4. A draft recommendation shall be presented to the full government by the Steering Committee at least two meetings prior to the recommendation deadline.
 - 8.4.1.The recommendation must be approved by two thirds of the government

- 8.5. If no recommendation can achieve majority support, then the prior year's recommendation will be re-presented to the Dean
- 8.6. The Dean's decision will be published on the student government's web site
- 8.7. After the Dean sets the fee, the Government budget remains fixed, but the Clubs and Social budgets are adjusted in proportion
- 8.8. A vote of two thirds of the government is required to move funds between buckets, or for any expenditure in excess of 5% of annual total student activity fees.

9. History of the Student Government

In the mid 1990s Dean Jeffrey Garten created the Dean's Advisory Council ("DAC") as a form of student representation for SOM. It consisted of a process in which students applied for a two-year position on the DAC. Second-year members of the DAC recommended applicants (from the pool of first year applicants) to Dean Garten, who then made the appointments. This process was created in order to ensure a diverse body of students able to collect input from various social and demographic circles within SOM. Typically there were 10 students appointed to the DAC each year. The DAC served as a communication medium between the students and the administration and as a sounding board for the Dean.

In 2005, Joel Podolny succeeded Jeffrey Garten as the Dean of the Yale School of Management. Based on survey data collected by the DAC in June 2005 and conversations with numerous stakeholders, Dean Podolny wanted to explore the possibility of an elected component to student representation, and charged the DAC with the task of creating a student government to be implemented in Spring 2006.

The DAC sought input from the student body through an open meeting on the topic of a student government at SOM. It invited students who were interested in participating in the creation of this new body to work on the specific components of the new government. The process consisted of collecting information on student representative structures at other graduate and professional schools, gathering opinions from current SOM students, and working in small groups to ensure that as many issues as possible could be addressed with this new student representation structure.

The components identified from student input during open meetings indicated that SOM desired student representation that was

- Transparent
- Accountable
- Diverse

Flexible

Additionally, students asked that the government communicate frequently to stakeholders, exercise influence where appropriate on behalf of the student body, and address issues that concern students.

The committee attempted to

- Design a transparent elections system and system of student representation that was accountable to the students, administration and SOM community at large
- Build an organization to tackle the ongoing concerns of SOM.
- Create an organization capable of tackling a breadth of issues.
- Give students a more effective voice through the student representation infrastructure.
- Encourage student representation that encompasses the diversity of students at SOM.

Origination of the cumulative voting process in flex committee elections

The committee chose to implement a cumulative voting system in order to help to ensure diversity (demographic, social, and professional) among elected student body representatives as well as to allow voters to express degrees of preference among candidates running for student body representative positions.

Origination of second-year student as President

The President is elected in the spring semester for the next academic year. The group creating this process felt this was important so that the student government could have direction and leadership over the summer and allows the student government to start working three months prior to the start of the school year. Further, it allows the student government to have its infrastructure in place prior to start of year.

Amendments

Section 2 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 2.1.1. amended: to increase number of SG officers following creation of Admissions Chair role

"Section 2 Amended February 16, 2009.

Section 2.1.2 amended: to reflect decision to continue cohort reps into the second year.

iii Section 2 Amended September 8, 2009

Section 2.1.2 amended: to reflect decision to add Gold cohort representative, keep general reps

iv Section 2 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 2.1.2 amended: to clarify that Cohort and General Reps come from both classes

^v Section 2 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 2.1.2 amended: to reflect creation of Admissions Chair role

vi Section 2 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 2.1.3 amended: to reflect creation of Admissions Chair role

vii Section 2 Amended February 16, 2009.

Section 2.2 added: the role of the Vice President.

viii Section 2 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 2.3.1.3: removed need to vote non-SG volunteers onto committee, and removed specifics around communicating volunteers to school (via e-news and SG newsletter)

ix Section2 Amended October 6, 2009

Section 2.3.2.3: added to compensate for fewer members in Spring semester

* Section 2 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 2.3.3.4.1 amended: to name President as default chair of Communications committee

xi Section 3 Amended October 6, 2009

Section 3.1.2 amended: to allow for staffing flexibility based on committee chair needs

xii Section 3 Amended February 25, 2009.

Section 3.2.3.5 added: class marshal selection process.

xiii Section 3 Amended February 25, 2009, Removed October 6, 2009

Section 3.2.3.6 added: responsibility for commencement committee.

xiv Section 3 Amended February 16, 2009.

Section 3.3 added: to delineate the role of the Vice President.

xv Section 3 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 3.5.2 and Section 3.5.3 describing Admissions Office coordination deleted following creation of Admissions Chair position

xvi Section 3 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 3.10 added following creation of Admissions Chair position.

xvii Section 5 Amended September 8, 2009

Section 5.1 amended: added language to allow for use of other types of parliamentary procedure

xviii Section 5 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 5.2.2 amended: removed specifics around communicating meeting times to school (via e-news and SG newsletter)

xix Section 5 Amended October 6, 2009

Section 5.3.2 amended: added language regarding for vote tally when Division of the House is requested

xx Section 5 Amended October 9, 2009

Section 5.5 amended added language regarding presidential consultation for charter changes

xxi Section 6 Amended February 16, 2009.

Section 6.1.3 amended: replacing special elections with process of nomination and confirmation from within the government.

xxii Section 6 Amended October 10, 2010

Section 6.2.2.2 amended: to increase and clarify voting eligibility rules for Joint Degrees and Silver Scholars.

xxiii Section 6 Amended January 23, 2011

Section 6.3.2 amended: to increase number of candidates/committees from six to seven following creation of Admissions Chair position

xxiv Section 6 Amended February 16, 2009.

Section 6.3.5 amended: to change language on voting to reflect decision to keep cohort reps into the second year.

xxv Section 6 Amended September 8, 2009

Section 6.3.4 amended: to change voting procedure from 1 vote total to 1 vote per available seat

xxvi Section 6.3.4 Amended October 6, 2009: added language restricting students to one vote per candidate.

xxvii Section 6.3.5 Rescinded February 16, 2009, replaced with "Breaking a tie"

xxviiii Section 6 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 6.3.5 amended: added language to clarify repeat of voting process if tie continues

xxix Section 6 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 6.3.6.1 amended: to codify Election Committee and its standing members

xxx Section 6 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 6.3.6.5 amended: to better define mass emails and clarify reporting of rule infringements

xxxi Section 6 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 6.3.6.9 amended: to clarify that only winning candidates, not numerical results, will be announced

xxxiii Section 6.5.2 Amended September 22, 2009

Section 6.5.2 amended: to update language from Office of Student Affairs to Student and Academic Services (SAS)

xxxiii Section 6 Amended April 19, 2010

Section 6.5.2 amended: to clarify "eight credits" and not "eight passing grades"; also to clarify disqualifying grades of "pass" or "fail"