

Austin College

Student Assembly

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Whereas: that while the By-Laws state the roles of the Parliamentarian, they fail to grant the Parliamentarian actual power as an appellate authority,

Noting: the Parliamentarian has not had clear written guidance as to how to carry out the duties described in the By-Laws,

Believing: a democratically-elected Parliamentarian with clear duties and authority to receive appeals from the representatives will ultimately better effectively serve the members of the assembly,

Be it resolved: Article VII of the By-Laws be struck and amended to:

ARTICLE VII

Parliament

**Section 1 - Nomination **

Each Representative and Delegate may nominate themselves to serve as Parliamentarian of the Assembly. The Parliamentarian must have previously served at least a semester in the Assembly. The appointment of a Parliamentarian should be considered a priority each semester.

Section 2 - Election

Each nominated Representative or Delegate may give a speech. Afterwards, the Assembly will immediately elect one nominee to serve as Parliamentarian through an anonymous ballot voting process to be counted by the Elections Committee. If committees have not yet been appointed, it will be overseen by the Advisor.

Section 3 - Duties

The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be as follows:

1. To answer any questions relating to parliamentary procedure

2. To serve as appellate authority on questions of order
3. To know the constitution, by-laws, and resolution writing process
4. To head task forces charged with updating the constitution or reviewing constitutional amendments
 - a. Review and advise any matters regarding the constitution
5. To ensure all voting is within the boundaries set by the constitution
6. To approve Resolutions for presentation
 - b. Appeals may be made to the President, Vice-President, or Advisor
 - c. The Advisor retains the right to veto resolutions after they have passed through the Assembly
7. To grant and take the floor from members
 - d. This means they call on members to speak during open floor times, and ask members to allow others to speak
8. To carry out impeachment proceedings
 - e. In the case that a member motions for the impeachment of an executive officer, the Parliamentarian will officiate over the proceedings in front of the Assembly. The Parliamentarian will then grant time for both the accuser and accused to assert their case, as well as respond. The assembly has the right to cross examine both parties. A $\frac{3}{4}$ vote of the entirety of the Assembly is needed for the executive officer to be impeached.
 - f. In the case that there is no Parliamentarian, the Advisor will carry out the proceedings.
9. To have monthly report with the Executive team

Section 4 - Term

A Parliamentarian shall be elected at the start of each semester. A member may serve multiple terms as Parliamentarian, subject to the approval of the assembly each semester.

Section 5 - Removal

If the President believes that the Parliamentarian is acting for obvious self interest or without regard to the parliamentary procedure of the Assembly, the President may ask to remove that member as Parliamentarian. If three-fourths of the assembly agree, that member is removed as Parliamentarian, and a new election must be held as soon as possible.

Section 6 - Having no Parliamentarian

If the President believes that no representative holds the qualifications to be Parliamentarian, the President may suggest that there be no parliamentarian with the approval of two-thirds of the Assembly, with the same voting process as outlined in Section 2.