

University Senate Plenary

February 7, 2024



University Senate

Proposed: February 7, 2025

Adopted: February 7, 2025

PROPOSED AGENDA

University Senate

Friday, February 7, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

Via Zoom

[Registration required](#)

After registering you will receive a confirmation email with meeting details.

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of the minutes of December 13, 2024
3. President's report and questions
4. Chair's report and questions
5. Old business:
 - a. Resolutions:
 - i. Resolution to Amend the University Senate By-Laws to Reflect the Number of Students on the Student Affairs Committee (Structure and Operations)
 - ii. Resolution to Amend the University Senate By-Laws to Correct the Language of the Campus Planning and Physical Development Mandate (Structure and Operations)
 - iii. Resolution to Amend the University Senate By-Laws to Add a Vice Chair to the Executive Committee (Structure and Operations)
6. New business:
 - a. Resolutions:
 - i. Resolution to Combat Antisemitism and All Forms of Hate (External Relations and Research Policy)
 - b. Committee updates and reports:
 - i. Update on FLI Space (Campus Planning and Physical Development, Commission on Diversity)
7. Adjourn

Attendees to this Plenary meeting are reminded not to post this meeting, or any portion of this meeting, online as such a posting could result in a violation of the University's Acceptable Usages of Information Resources Policy.

Minutes of the Meeting of December 13, 2024

60 out of 108 Senators were present.

Senator Jeanine D'Armiento (Ten., P&S), Executive Committee Chair, called the University Senate to order at 1:15pm. Sen. D'Armiento welcomed Senators and guests to the fourth Plenary of the 2024-2025 session. Sen. D'Armiento apologized for the last-minute change in format of the Plenary to in-person, noting that the change was at the President's request and that this would be explained further. Sen. D'Armiento reminded attendees of the Parliamentary procedures and that recordings are not permitted in Plenary meetings.

Senators adopted the [agenda](#) for the Plenary.

Senators then adopted the [minutes](#) of the November 22, 2024 Plenary.

Sen. D'Armiento then turned over the meeting to Interim University President Katrina Armstrong.

Updates from President Armstrong

President Armstrong began her updates by sharing her gratitude toward the Columbia community during these difficult times. President Armstrong emphasized the strength of diversity in dialogue at the university. She added that there is a willingness for community members to stand up for what is needed. President Armstrong stated that she has learned a lot from students over the semester and their commitment to dialogue. She added that her administration has been working to discuss with the [Columbia American Association of University Professors \(AAUP\)](#) as well as the newly formed Campus Access Advisory Committee. She discussed the complexities of campus access to the Morningside Campus. She also added that the administration is looking at how to improve space on campus, such as study spaces for students. President Armstrong added that the administration is looking at all aspects of the student experience, including student space, health, curriculum, and the connections between faculty and students. President Armstrong discussed how students frequently mention that connecting with a faculty member is the most memorable aspect of their time at Columbia. She stated that she wanted to better create connections between faculty and students. President Armstrong then took questions.

Senator Alex Rouhandeh (Stu., JOURN) asked about Chief Operating Officer (COO) Cas Holloway's November 27th, 2024 email regarding the creation of the Campus Access Advisory Committee and if it was intended to be a permanent committee. President Armstrong clarified that the group mentioned in

COO Holloway's email was the same advisory group that she had previously talked about in her opening remarks. President Armstrong added that the [Inclusive Public Safety Advisory Committee \(IPSAC\)](#) already had existed and that the Campus Access Advisory Committee could potentially become a subset of IPSAC. President Armstrong also stated that there is a start and stop process for groups like the Campus Access Advisory Committee.

Senator Ovita Williams (TTOT, SSW) raised a question from a colleague in response to the potential threat of rounding up of immigrants as announced by politicians across the country. Sen. Williams asked if Columbia planned to allow the NYPD to come onto campus to arrest affiliates. President Armstrong responded by stating that the University has not fundamentally changed in the last few years and that she wanted to make sure that the administration is working to ensure that the University is living up to its values and supporting its students. President Armstrong added that the experts on the topic needed to be brought into the conversation to talk about what is happening at the state level. Sen. D'Armiento stated that the University has been through this before and that the University cannot break the law, but the campus is closed to police outside of emergencies and there is a standard process to review requests to bring police onto campus. President Armstrong stated that the University will monitor what is happening at the state and national level on this issue.

Senator Lydia Goehr (Ten., A&S/HUM) followed up on Sen. Williams's question. Sen. Goehr asked about what preparations are being taken to protect students who are international students, on visas, completing degrees that are faced with being removed from the country. Sen. Goehr asked for a more concrete answer from President Armstrong. President Armstrong responded that there are working groups being created in the administration to address each potential issue that might arise under the new federal administration, such as issues around immigration, visas, finance, student loans, etc. She stated that there have been around 13 or 14 issues that have been identified so far. President Armstrong added that students are the top concern when addressing these issues and that she would like to ensure engagement and communication around these issues is done properly. She added that the Trustees had been notified of these working groups in their most recent meeting.

Senator Greg Freyer (TTOT, SPH) wanted to comment on the relationship between faculty and students that President Armstrong mentioned. Sen. Freyer asked about the perceived erosion of tenure spots at the University that the Faculty Affairs Committee has raised concerns about. President Armstrong responded that students benefit from their relationship with tenured faculty and that she has pushed tenured faculty to spend more time with students. She added that she also believed that students should be engaged in diversity of type of faculty they engage with.

Senator Mahmood Mamdani (Ten., A&S/SS) began his remarks by stating that he has expected that there would be a process of communication and reflection upon the previous school year and that instead he witnessed a semester of division between the administration and activist faculty and students. He added that he felt that the University Senate was the best body to do this work since it had representatives across

the entire University. Sen. Mamdani stated that he was shocked that the semester began with discussions of punishment under the Rules of University Conduct. He added that he felt that the semester started off on the wrong foot and that it is never too late to begin the work of reflection and moving forward. President Armstrong responded that she was not sure where the focus on the Rules of University Conduct came from but that her emails to the entire University have been primarily focused on the core principles of the University, community engagement, knowledge creation about where the University has been, creating a campus environment free of discrimination, and managing disruption to the academic mission of the University. President Armstrong added that she has started hearing suggestions about how to best reflect upon the last year. President Armstrong also stated that many students had come to her at the beginning of the year and emphasized how they want to be able to go to school and carry on with their regular activities.

Senator Henry Ginsberg (Ten., P&S) asked if matters discussed in the University Senate plenary can move forward without the approval and coordination with the Board of Trustees and if President Armstrong could share any information from the Board of Trustees. President Armstrong responded that there have been multiple Board of Trustees meetings in the last few days and that these topics have come up recently. Sen. D'Armiento added that there have been a few meetings with Trustees and Senators and that the Trustees have expressed their commitment to the shared governance structure of the University currently. Sen. D'Armiento added that she had a meeting with other faculty governance leaders from other universities and that the shared governance structures at Columbia are quite strong in comparison, which has allowed for certain protections and freedoms at Columbia not present at other universities.

Chair's Report and Questions

Sen. D'Armiento began her report by stating that the Senate would not be discussing the [three amendments listed on the agenda](#) due to their not being enough Senators present to hold a supermajority vote. She added that this was in part as a result of the next item for discussion that caused the Senate to change its meeting to in-person. Sen. D'Armiento gave a brief update on the status of the [Resolution to Address Institutional Failings Relating to the Case of R. Hadden](#) adopted on October 27th, 2023. Sen. D'Armiento stated that the Senate is working with the administration to understand the current status set out in the [University's Response to Robert Hadden](#) from November 13th, 2023 and that she expects an update in the spring. Sen. D'Armiento responded to Sen. Mamdani by stating that the University Senate will be finishing their [report](#) reflecting on the events from last year and will have opportunities to discuss with the community in the spring.

Sen. D'Armiento began to introduce the Student Affairs Committee update but first commented about the recent social media postings targeting students. She added that she has talked with other university governance leaders and was shocked to learn that Columbia is among the worst in internal harassment. She ended by stating that it is ultimately up to the University community to stop destroying themselves and that she hopes that process of healing could begin now.

Statement About Community (Student Affairs)

Sen. D'Armiento introduced Senator Maria Martinez (Stu., CC), Co-Chair of the Student Affairs Committee, to lead the discussion, joined by Senator and Student Affairs Committee Co-Chair Jaxon Williams-Bellamy (Stu., LAW) and Senator and Student Affairs Committee Vice Chair Bruce Goumain (Stu., GS). Sen. Martinez read the [Statement About Community](#) passed by the Student Affairs Committee. The statement highlighted the recent incident of doxing and online harassment that had targeted a student Senator and their comments from the last Plenary, which resulted in further targeting from community members and the sharing of private information that led to harassment. The statement encouraged community members to engage in dialogue with any Senator that they may disagree with rather than engaging in actions that may generate harm. The statement ended with a call to focus on fostering a respectful climate where dialogue, collaboration, and understanding can thrive.

Sen. Martinez then invited Senator Helen Han Wei Luo (Stu., GSAS/HUM) to speak. Sen. Luo read a [statement](#) addressing the targeting she has experienced. In her statement, Sen. Luo recounted the events that led to the targeting she received online and clarifying the mischaracterization of her remarks from the November 22nd Plenary, the development and increase of doxing by certain members of the community, the failures of the administration in responding to these issues. Sen. Luo specifically mentioned that a Business School professor recently posted an image of Sen. Luo in a bathing suit from when she was 20 years old, which resulted in online harassment, sexualization, and racist comments. Sen. Luo stated that this professor should not be allowed to continue his behavior without punishment from the University. Sen. Luo ended her statement by discussing what she believes the future for Columbia will hold if nothing is done to address these issues.

Sen. Williams expressed gratitude to Sen. Luo. Sen. Williams then read from anonymous [statements submitted by faculty](#). These statements addressed concern for the violation of Senate norms to target and harass a student Senator and faculty Senator in order to silence free speech and academic discourse that goes against the University's values. The statements also addressed the misinformation and mischaracterization of the University Senate and Rules Committee in their work over the last year.

Senator Melinda Aquino (Admin. Staff, Morningside-Lamont) thanked Sen. Luo for her bravery in recounting her experience after being doxed. Sen. Aquino shared her experience helping students who have been doxed in her role at the Multicultural Affairs Office. Sen. Aquino stated that student leaders are scared to have their names listed on rosters for certain identity and cultural groups due to the fear of being doxed or having been doxed. Sen. Aquino shared that students have been afraid to leave their residence halls and afraid for their families after being doxed. Sen. Aquino added that she is disappointed in the lack of discussion and protection for staff who have been targeted. Sen. Aquino ended by restating how students are unable to fully engage with the University community under these current conditions. Sen. D'Armiento responded that the Senate is working closely with the administration to solve these problems.

Senator Julie Crawford (Ten., A&S/HUM) stated that, as the Senate works on the Rules in the Rules Committee, the administration needs to defend the due process of the Rules Committee and the University to avoid attacks on those members or the punishments on those members. Sen. Crawford emphasized the need to communicate what is being done to students and faculty who are being doxed and what procedures are in place to achieve that. Sen. Crawford added that this should be done immediately and that it is not acceptable for individual students and faculty to deal with being targeted and doxed by themselves. Sen. D'Armiento responded that she is shocked that this standard of behavior even needs to be communicated and that the Senate will be working over the break in order to address these issues. Sen. D'Armiento added that the targeting of Senator Joseph Slaughter (Ten., A&S/HUM) was devastating to the Senate and Senate members after he dedicated such a significant time to the work of the Senate and the rules committee. President Armstrong responded that there are resources through their Schools and University Life to support students who are doxed. President Armstrong added that the administration is committed to improving these resources.

Senator Jeffrey Gordon (Ten., LAW) asked if the online meeting format of the Senate have made it easier for doxing to occur and whether it would be better to hold in-person meetings. Sen. D'Armiento responded that the fact that there are community members who cannot behave themselves is unacceptable and prohibits the ability for the Senate to carry out its business and have necessary attendance. Sen. D'Armiento expressed the appreciation for the students to still be able to speak out after being targeted. Sen. Gordon responded that it might be helpful during registration for the Plenary if individuals are required to confirm that they will not record or post about Plenaries. Sen. D'Armiento confirmed that the staff has discussed implementing changes like this. She also said that the perpetrators are known to the community and do not feel a need to stop. She ended by saying that community norms need to be created and upheld by everyone at Columbia in order for the targeting to stop.

Senator Jalaj Mehta (Stu. (Undergraduate), SEAS) thanked Sen. Luo for her speech. Sen. Mehta reiterated Sen. Luo's demand for the administration to do something about this incident. Sen. Mehta stated that, through his work on the Senate, he has seen the administration present in meetings but that the administration has done nothing to address these types of issues and that he is frustrated that a Senator being doxed is what it takes to get a response from the University about these issues. Sen. Mehta ended that he hopes that something is actually done in the next few months to address the concerns over doxing.

Sen. Slaughter commended Sen. Luo for her bravery and reminded the Senate that Sen. Luo was the only student to speak up at the previous Plenary due to fear of doxing and that students have had to ask tenured faculty members to read statements out of fear from other community members retaliating. Sen. Slaughter added that no one on the Senate is required to be there but chose to be here due to commitment to making the University a better place.

Petition Under Section 1.m. of the University Senate By-Laws

Sen. D'Armiento next discussed the [petition](#) that had been received under Section 1.m. of the Senate By-

Laws. Sen. D'Armiento stated that the Executive Committee must validate the petition before it can be referred to the relevant Senate Committee.

Update from Rules Administrator Gregory Wawro

Sen. D'Armiento next introduced Professor of Political Science Gregory Wawro who serves as the University Rules Administrator. Rules Administrator Wawro emphasized the three standards the Rules Administrator needed to adhere to: fairness, transparency, and efficiency. Rules Administrator Wawro stated that he has been attempting to achieve short-term and long-term goals. First, the University is trying to achieve resolution from cases from last year. Second, the University is trying to process current protests and demonstrations this semester. For longer-term goals, Rules Administrator Wawro hopes to rebuild trust in the [Rules of University Conduct](#). He added that the volume of protests and demonstrations since last year has resulted in rethinking about how to change Rules Administration. Rules Administrator Wawro added that improving communication around the Rules of University Conduct should be a top priority. He mentioned the different individuals and groups that he has been meeting with to think through Rules Administration, including student groups. Rules Administrator Wawro announced that, as part of the process of improving the Rules Administrator position, the University is creating an Office of Rules Administration in order to have capacity to handle the volume of protesting and demonstration. He added that the University has already hired two full-time employees to work for the Office of Rules Administration and that hiring will continue in the coming months. Rules Administrator Wawro stated that the Office will work to augment Delegate training and support, including training on how to engage with individuals who are demonstrating. Rules Administrator Wawro announced that there will be a website dedicated to Rules Administration soon where updates and communication can be directly streamlined through. He stated the importance of discussing with elected representatives. Rules Administrator Wawro ended with emphasizing the educational component to Rules Administration and the Office of Rules Administration. Rules Administrator Wawro then took questions.

Senator Gabriella Ramirez (Stu., SIPA), member of the Rules Committee, asked Rules Administrator Wawro what protection there will be for the Delegates on the ground after incidents and doxing that occurred to the Delegates last year. Rules Administrator Wawro responded that he is frustrated by this issue as well and that he wants to engage with the community more to address this issue. He added that partnering with Public Safety and extra trainings in order to have Delegates be prepared, while agreeing with the earlier discussion around the concerns around doxing.

Senator Brent Stockwell (Ten., A&S/NS) asked about the difference between events that happen within the campus gates vs. outside the gates. Sen. Stockwell mentioned the recent demonstration on the street where a Jewish student was punched in the face as example of confusion of how to hold student groups accountable. Rules Administrator Wawro responded that the Rules of University Conduct hold individuals accountable and not student groups. He added that protests outside the gate that is not a University-sponsored event would not fall under the Rules jurisdiction and would be within the NYPD's jurisdiction. Sen. D'Armiento noted that the understanding is that the individual who punched the student was not a

Columbia affiliate. Sen. Stockwell mentioned that a student group organized this protest and that he believes the group should be held responsible. Rules Administrator Wawro added that these discussions are important to keep in mind and to clarify when the campus eventually is reopened.

Senator Wena Teng (Stu., CC) stated that she wanted to know what would be done after the doxing of Sen. Luo, given that Sen. Teng is the only other Asian American woman student Senator. She asked how Title VI violations would be held accountable. Rules Administrator Wawro mentioned that Title VI and IX violations are handled by the [Office of Institutional Equity](#), not the Rules of University Conduct but that he meets weekly with leadership from the Office of Institutional Equity to clarify where cases should be handled.

Sen. D'Armiento adjourned the meeting and wished all of the Senators a happy winter holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Senate staff

University Senate

Proposed: February 7, 2025

Adopted: February 7, 2025

79-0-0: In favor-opposed-abstained

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY SENATE BY-LAWS
TO REFLECT THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS ON THE STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate approves the updates to the University Senate-By-Laws, as set out, below.

SEC. 4: COMMITTEES.

k. The composition and jurisdiction of the several standing committees shall be as follows:

vi) Committee on Student Affairs: The Committee on Student Affairs shall consist of all ~~24~~ 25 student Senators, as well as one non-Senator observer from Union Theological Seminary. One of its members shall also be a member of the Committee on Rules of University Conduct. Its jurisdiction shall cover matters of student life including, but not limited to, student organizations, student housing, extracurricular activities and student concerns in the community. The Committee shall have jurisdiction to consider matters of University-wide student concerns and concerns of students in more than one faculty or school. Where student interests are closely related to the interests of other groups in the University, the Committee shall cooperate with other appropriate committees of the Senate.

Proponent:

Senate Structure and Operations Committee

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY SENATE BY-LAWS
TO CORRECT THE LANGUAGE OF THE CAMPUS PLANNING AND PHYSICAL
DEVELOPMENT MANDATE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate approves the updates to the University Senate-By-Laws, as set out, below.

SEC. 4: COMMITTEES

k. The composition and jurisdiction of the several standing committees shall be as follows:

iv) Committee on Campus Planning and Physical Development of the University: The Committee on Campus Planning and Physical Development of the University shall consist of 16 members apportioned as follows: 5 tenured faculty, 2 non-tenured faculty, 2 administrators, 3 students, 1 alumnus or alumna, 1 library staff, 1 officer of research, and 1 administrative staff. The primary mandate of the Campus Planning and Physical Development Committee is to review and comment upon the processes for planning, reviewing, assigning priorities and implementing the University's physical development and assess how they impact the academic mission of the University. This shall include plans and projects to change space available for specific schools and departments as well as space for the well-being of the University community. The Committee will report to the Senate, President, and Trustees whether major projects have been properly reviewed and serve the best interests of the University. In addition, the Committee will work with the administration and appropriate committees of the Trustees in reviewing, with respect to the University's academic goals, the long-term physical development plans of the University, for the campus and for off-campus properties, and the effects of those plans on the community. The Committee shall meet periodically with the appropriate vice president and their designates to discuss the status of planned and ongoing

major capital improvements for the University. In addition, the Committee shall regularly receive reports from pertinent departments and committees charged with academically relevant aspects of physical development. The Committee may also advise the administration and the Trustees on faculty, student, and staff concerns, priorities and particular projects related to campus planning and physical development. The Committee shall work closely with the Committees on Education, Budget-~~Review~~, and Libraries and Digital ~~Media~~-Resources so that developmental plans may bear close relationship to the fulfillment of educational policies and purposes. The Committee shall also work closely with the Committee on External Relations and Research Policy to minimize areas of conflict and maximize areas of cooperation with the community. On behalf of the Senate, the Committee shall also serve as a forum for reviewing reports of exceptional difficulties experienced with the academic physical plant, buildings, grounds, and maintenance.

Proponent:

Senate Structures and Operations Committee

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY SENATE BY-LAWS
TO ADD A VICE CHAIR TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate approve the updates to the University Senate By-Laws, as set out, below.

SEC.3: ELECTORAL CAUCUSES AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. Establishment of Electoral Caucuses. There shall be the following Electoral Caucuses: Tenured Faculty Caucus, TTOT Faculty Caucus, ~~and~~ Student Caucus, and Research Officer Caucus.
- b. Other Caucuses: Nothing in Section 3 of these By-Laws shall preclude the establishment of other Senate entities that use the word “Caucus” in their name.
- c. The composition and jurisdiction of the several electoral caucuses shall be as follows:
 - i) Tenured Faculty Caucus. The Tenured Faculty Caucus shall consist of all members of the Senate elected pursuant to Section 20.b.1 of the Statutes of the University. The Tenured Faculty Caucus shall select members of the Executive Committee, as specified in Section ~~(4)(i)(1)~~ 3.d. of these By-Laws, and shall conduct other business as appropriate.
 - ii) TTOT Faculty Caucus. The TTOT Faculty Caucus shall consist of all members of the Senate elected pursuant to Section 20.b.2 of the Statutes of the University. The TTOT Faculty Caucus shall select members of the Executive Committee, as specified in Section ~~4.i.1~~ 3.d. of these By-Laws, and shall conduct other business as appropriate.
 - iii) Student Caucus. The Student Caucus shall consist of all members of the Senate elected pursuant to Section 20.c. of the Statutes of the University. The Student Caucus shall select members of the Executive Committee, as specified in Section ~~(4)(i)(1)~~ 3.d. of these By-Laws, and shall conduct other business as appropriate.
 - iv) The Research Officer Caucus. The Research Officer Caucus shall consist of all members of the Senate elected pursuant to Section 20.f. of the Statutes of the University. The Research Officer Caucus shall select a member of the Executive Committee, as specified in Section 3.d. of these By-Laws, and shall conduct other business as appropriate.

d. Composition of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of ~~13~~ 15 members apportioned as follows: 1 tenured faculty member who shall be Chair, 1 tenured faculty member who shall be Vice Chair, 5 additional tenured faculty, 2 ~~non-tenured~~ TTOT faculty, 1 research officer, 2 administrators, and 3 students. All shall be members of the Senate. The two administration representatives shall be the President and another officer of administration of their choice. Elected members of the Executive Committee, except for the Chair and Vice Chair, shall be chosen by the appropriate electoral caucuses established in Section 3.a. of these By-Laws.

e. Powers of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be the Senate's agenda committee and its committee on committees. It may authorize standing committees without regular and recurring duties, if they request to be put on a stand-by basis, to meet once a semester and otherwise be on the call of the Senate or the Executive Committee or of a majority of the Committee concerned as the need for the activity of such committees may arise. The Executive Committee shall have the power to call the Senate into extraordinary session, and shall have such powers, functions and duties as the Senate may delegate to it during periods when the Senate is not in session.

f. Liaison with central administration. The Executive Committee shall serve as a continuing liaison between the University Senate and the central administration. The Executive Committee may create subcommittees and may delegate any of its powers, functions, and duties. The Executive Committee shall participate pursuant to the Statutes of the University and the By-Laws of the Trustees, in the selection of University Professors, the President of the University, the Provost or Provosts, and six Trustees. In performing these functions, the Executive Committee or the appropriate subcommittee thereof shall act in executive session and in a confidential manner and shall not be required to report its deliberations or actions to the Senate as a whole.

~~d-g.~~ Recognition of service. To the extent possible, officers of instruction may be allowed a reduction in their teaching loads and students may be granted appropriate credit for serving as members of the Executive Committee.

~~e-h.~~ In the spring of each odd-numbered year, the Senate shall nominate and elect the Chair of the Committee, and shall nominate and elect the Vice Chair of the Committee, who shall take office fourteen days before the day of Commencement. Both officers shall take office on the following September 1. A candidate for Chair or Vice Chair must be a member of the Tenured Caucus at the time of their nomination, ~~and he or she must have qualified to be a member of the Senate at the time he or she would take office.~~ In addition, ~~he or she~~ they must have served on the Senate at least two years in the immediately preceding four years. Each nomination shall require a petition signed by at least six current members of the Senate, at least 3 of whom shall be members of the Tenured Caucus and at least 2 of whom shall not be members of the Tenured Caucus. The Elections Commission shall prescribe the format and timing of the nominations. The current members of the Senate shall elect the Chair and the Vice Chair by confidential electronic ballot as prescribed

and supervised by the Elections Commission. A separate ballot shall be used for each position, and votes shall be tallied separately for each position. Each ballot shall include an option to abstain.

~~f.i.~~ Vacancies. If the position of chair becomes vacant ~~in an odd-numbered year at any point starting fourteen days before the day of Commencement and extending to fifteen days before the day of Commencement of the next odd-numbered year, then the remaining members of executive committee, voting as a whole, shall select an interim chair who shall serve until a new chair can be elected by the regular election procedure.~~ the Vice Chair shall become Chair for the remainder of the term of the Chair. If the position of Vice Chair becomes vacant, the remaining members of the Executive Committee, voting as a whole, shall select an interim Vice Chair until a new Vice Chair is elected for the remainder of the term of the Vice Chair. The election shall be held as soon as possible on a date determined by the Elections Commission. In the event of any vacancies in the Executive Committee other than the Chair or Vice Chair, a new member shall be selected in the same way that the departing member was selected, and shall serve for the unexpired term.

~~g.j.~~ Term limits: No Vice Chair. A person shall be elected chair of the Executive Committee more than three consecutive times. A person who becomes ineligible to be elected as chair because of the number of consecutive times they have been elected shall not become eligible to become chair or vice chair until at least one year has elapsed since the completion of their previous term. No person shall be elected Vice Chair of the Executive Committee more than three consecutive times. A person who becomes ineligible to be elected as Vice Chair because of the number of consecutive times they have been elected shall not become eligible to be elected as Vice Chair until at least one year has elapsed since the completion of their previous term.

Sec. 1 ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURE.

e. Presiding Officer. The President of the University shall be the presiding officer of the Senate. In their absence, or at their request, the Chair of the Executive Committee shall preside as Speaker pro tempore. In the absence of the Chair of the Executive Committee or at the request of the Chair of the Executive Committee, the Vice Chair shall preside as Speaker pro tempore if the President does not preside.

Proponent:

Senate Structure and Operations Committee

Proposed: February 7, 2025

Adopted: February 7, 2025

62-0-5: In favor-opposed-abstained

RESOLUTION TO COMBAT ANTISEMITISM AND ALL FORMS OF HATE

WHEREAS Columbia University is committed to fostering an inclusive, respectful, and equitable environment for all members of its community; and

WHEREAS Columbia University unequivocally condemns all forms of racism, bigotry, discrimination, hate speech, and harassment in all its forms; and

WHEREAS Antisemitism is one of several pernicious forms of discrimination and hate that undermines our principles; and

WHEREAS Incidents of harassment have caused harm to all members of our community and impacted the university's reputation, funding, and future student and faculty recruitment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED That the University Senate reaffirms its commitment to combating antisemitism and hate in all its forms and to ensuring a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the University Senate calls on all University stakeholders to actively oppose antisemitism as well as hate in all of its forms and to promote awareness of the impact of harassment and hate through education, training, and dialogue; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That Columbia University will work to create programs and initiatives to educate the university community about hate and its harmful consequences, fostering mutual understanding and respect across all identities and backgrounds; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED That the University Senate advocates for continued collaboration between student groups, schools, and administration to build a campus culture united against hate in all its forms.

Proponent: External Relations and Research Policy Committee