

University Senate Plenary

October 25, 2019



PROPOSED AGENDA

University Senate

Friday, October 21, 2019 at 1:15 p.m.

614 Schermerhorn

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of the minutes of September 20, 2019
3. President's remarks
4. Executive Committee chair's remarks:
5. Old business:
 - a. Resolution to Rename the Department of Pharmacology (Education Committee)
 - b. Resolution to Amend the University Statutes to Provide More Time for Eligible Faculty Who are New Parents to Prepare for Tenure (Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom, and Tenure Committee)
6. New business:
 - a. Resolution to Recognize Indigenous People's Day (Student Affairs Committee and Commission on Diversity)
 - b. Resolution for Columbia University to Encourage Voting in Our Community and Across the Country (External Relations and Research Policy and Student Affairs committees).
 - c. Committee Reports:
 - i. Elections Commission Special Report
 - ii. Annual Reports:
 1. Libraries and Digital Resources Committee
 - d. Other reports: Annual Officers' benefits update 2020

MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

Sen. Jeanine D'Armiento (Ten., P&S), the newly elected chair of the Executive Committee, called the Senate to order shortly after 1:15 p.m. in the Lantern, on the 8th floor of the Lenfest Center for the Arts on the Manhattanville Campus.

Adoption of the agenda. The agenda was adopted as proposed.

There was a request for quorum. Sen. D'Armiento determined that a quorum was present.

Adoption of the minutes. The minutes of May 3, 2019 were adopted as proposed.

President's remarks. Sen. D'Armiento explained that President Bollinger was occupied with World Leaders Forum events, and was unable to attend. She offered to convey any questions from senators to the president.

Executive Committee chair's remarks.

Summer powers. Sen. D'Armiento was pleased to report that the Executive Committee did not need to use summer powers this year.

Nominations to Senate committees. Sen. D'Armiento asked for a motion to approve the new roster of Senate committees.

Sen. Sharyn O'Halloran (Ten., SIPA) said there were many concerns about the vote on September 6 by the Tenured Caucus for the Executive Committee chair. She said part of the problem was that amendments to the Election Code approved in 2016 have not yet been applied to election policies and practices. Accustomed to collegiality, Senate groups sometimes let procedures slide, but Sen. Halloran said collegiality had failed in this case, making it necessary to follow the letter of the law. She said she and numerous other senators experienced a number of irregular procedures.

Sen. O'Halloran said people might ask, Why go through this? Why waste people's time with such issues? She said she wanted to make sure that everyone understands the importance of fair and democratic procedures for the election of the Executive Committee chair. She said there are many arguments about President Trump and issues of representation; if the University Senate is committed to representing all constituencies, it must make sure that its leader is elected fairly and properly.

Sen. O'Halloran listed the following irregularities in the election of the Executive Committee chair:

--Some tenured caucus members did not receive ballots; some emailed ballots bounced or went into spam. She had to request her own ballot a number of times.

--Inadequate notice. Ballots for the Executive Committee were supposed to be circulated seven days before the vote, but went out six days beforehand. In addition, notice of the vote for Executive Committee chair was provided only at the meeting.

--Unavailable candidate statements. They were visible only in the emailed ballot. None were available at the meeting, despite requests from members.

--Unclear instructions about how and when to vote for Executive Committee chair. Tenured caucus members did not understand that the ballot they received by email was only for the six tenured Executive Committee seats. To be able to vote for Executive Committee chair, members had to be in the Tenured Caucus meeting room or calling in.

Sen. O'Halloran repeated that under collegial conditions, such problems don't matter. She said that Sen. D'Armiento had been her vice chair during Sen. Halloran's last two-year term as chair, and they had agreed to continue in that way for another term. At the last moment, Sen. O'Halloran said, there was a nomination and Sen. D'Armiento accepted it. Sen. O'Halloran said she was not going to talk about integrity or related issues. But she stressed that the Senate process must have integrity.

Sen. O'Halloran said nobody who wasn't in the room for the tenured caucus meeting knew whom to call. And new members who did not have the candidate statements did not know who held what position or what was going on.

--There was no quorum. Again, under congenial conditions, that kind of problem can be overlooked. Otherwise, it is necessary to follow procedures to assure due process.

Sen. O'Halloran said there were a number of steps the Senate could take to address this situation. She added that she did not take challenging the election lightly. But numerous senators had expressed serious concerns both before and during the election. She said it was crucial to follow the rules to assure the credibility of the Senate.

Sen. O'Halloran said the question was whether the Senate should accept the certification of this vote for the Executive Committee chair. She said there were many ways in which the Senate could void that decision. The Senate could vote to override and vacate it. It could also amend the standing committee roster that was now before it. She said it was important for the Senate to be able to continue to conduct business, and approve the rosters of all the other committees. But it could leave off the Executive Committee chair for the time being, or it could leave off the entire Executive Committee—though she did not necessarily favor the last approach.

Sen. O'Halloran said that an alternative to these possibilities would be to allow Sen. D'Armiento to continue, then wait for the ruling of the Elections Commission on Sen. O'Halloran's challenge, then re-do the vote, and act on the result of an election conducted fairly and properly.

Sen. O'Halloran said she was putting her case before the Senate.

Sen. D'Armiento said the election had been challenged, and the Elections Commission was now reviewing it. The Commission had determined that while their ruling on the challenge was pending, Sen. D'Armiento would serve as chair, so the Senate could continue to conduct business. The Senate would then act on the Elections Commission's ruling.

Sen. O'Halloran said she challenged the decision of the Elections Commission, but she was not going to discuss it in detail because she thought the Senate should continue about its business. Citing Section 9 of the Senate Elections Code, she noted that the Senate could vacate a certification decision of the Elections Commission.

Sen. D'Armiento asked for a motion for the Senate to proceed as the Elections Commission had recommended.

Sen. O'Halloran said she had a different motion--to vacate the election.

Sen. D'Armiento said such a motion had to await action on a prior declaration by the Elections Commission that the Senate should continue about its business until there had been a ruling on the election of the Executive Committee chair.

Sen. O'Halloran understood Section 9 of the Elections Code as allowing the Senate to vacate not just a final decision of the Elections Commission on an election appeal, but also the earlier certification of the election.

Sen. D'Armiento said that would be the case if Sen. O'Halloran hadn't challenged the election. But she did challenge it.

Sen. D'Armiento said she was giving her answers after consultations with the parliamentarian, Linda Mischel Eisner.

Sen. D'Armiento read aloud the relevant portion of Section 9 of the Elections Code:

Once the ballots have been counted any challenge to the credentials of a successful candidate on grounds of substantial error in procedure shall be heard by the Elections Commission, which shall report its recommendations to the Senate. The decision of the Elections Commission shall be final unless overturned by the Senate. Any person whose victory has been certified shall have a vote in the Senate unless and until the Senate refuses to accept his or her credentials on all matters except to vote on his or her own credentials.

Sen. D'Armiento said this election had been challenged, and the Elections Commission was reviewing that challenge.

Sen. O'Halloran said she did not want to amend the standing committee roster because she did not want to impede Senate business.

After further discussion, the parliamentarian asked Sen. O'Halloran if she was challenging the *certification* of the election, as distinct from a ruling on a challenge to the election. Sen. O'Halloran said she was.

Sen. D'Armiento said the Election Commission had not yet ruled on the challenge and the Senate wanted to conduct business in the meantime. When the Commission makes its decision, she said, the Senate can accept it, or not. She understood that to be the meaning of Sen. O'Halloran's statement.

Sen. O'Halloran said her motion now was to move ahead with the nomination process, and not to split the committees. But she said it was important for senators to understand that the Senate as a whole is responsible for the integrity of its elections, and for correcting any errors or irregularities in them. That was the main reason why she had raised this issue.

The parliamentarian asked if Sen. O'Halloran was making a motion. Sen. O'Halloran said she was withdrawing that motion and calling for consideration of the committee roster as a whole.

Sen. D'Armiento said she had made that motion, and she called for a vote. The motion was seconded. By show of hands, the Senate voted 49-3, with 5 abstentions, to approve the standing committee roster, pending an Elections Commission ruling on the validity of the election of the Executive Committee chair.

Welcome to new senators. Dana Neacsu, a member of the Elections Commission, then read aloud the names of 25 newly elected senators, who each stood briefly. At the end there was applause.

Statement from the Student Affairs Committee. SAC co-chair Jacqueline de Vegvar (P&S) briefly summarized a current initiative that began with the Office of University Life and the Native American Council, a student group, some of whose members were in the room. She said NAC, founded in 1996 to promote discussion and collaboration among Native American students and their allies, was now working with SAC to ask the University to recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day, which falls on the second Monday of every October. The day was first proposed in 1977 at a United Nations conference that addressed the issue of discrimination faced by indigenous peoples in North America. Since 1992, when the University of California at Berkeley became the first state institution to recognize this day, many universities, states and cities across the United States have followed suit.

Sen. de Vegvar said SAC was now developing a resolution to provide symbolic recognition of Indigenous Peoples Day. Such recognition would not change the academic calendar or create an academic or University holiday, and it would not replace Columbus Day. She said SAC believed that Columbia, as a global research institution, offers a platform for immense influence and positive change, and recognizing Indigenous Peoples Day would set Columbia apart as a forward-thinking institution.

Sen. de Vegvar said SAC was excited about this collaboration. She urged senators to contact leaders of SAC and NAC with questions.

New business.

Resolution to Rename the Department of Pharmacology (Education). Education Committee co-chair Letty Moss-Salentijn (Ten., DCM) presented the resolution, a Statutory

amendment that would require the support of three-fifths of all current senators. She said the department dates back as far as the College of Physicians and Surgeons, or about 250 years. Throughout that long and distinguished history—in teaching as well as research—the department has carried the same simple name. But in the modern age it is moving on, and wants to show its stepped-up commitment to cellular and molecular approaches, and to the translational and clinical implications of its research. So it has proposed a new name, the Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics. Sen. Moss-Salentijn said many other CUIMC departments have already undergone similar changes. The resolution would enact this name change, and would then be forwarded to the Trustees for final approval.

Sen. D’Armiento determined that 62 senators were in the room, but 63 were needed for a three-fifths majority, so the Senate could not vote on the name change.

Resolution to Amend the University Statutes to Expand the Terms of the Parental Workload Relief Plan (Faculty Affairs Committee). FAC co-chair Greg Freyer (NT, SPH) presented the resolution, which also would amend the Statutes and therefore required a three-fifths majority.

Sen. D’Armiento asked for preliminary discussion.

Sen. Freyer said the proposal, received about a week earlier from Interim Provost Ira Katznelson, would extend the Statutory provision that now assures all tenure-track faculty up to a year’s leave for up to two children. The extension would lift the two-child limit and stop the tenure clock for up to a year for *any* child born while the faculty member is on the tenure track.

Sen. Freyer said the proposed amendment would remove the words “with a maximum of two years” from Section 71 (c) (2) of the University Statutes, which covers parental leave.

Sen. D’Armiento understood that parental leave was already available regardless of the number of children a faculty member has. What was new about the present proposal, which was now being passed around with new revisions, was the removal of the limit on the number of children whose birth could extend the tenure clock. The latest version of the resolution, which included a new title (Resolution on Additional Eligibility of Service for Parents) would now be offered as a friendly amendment.

Sen. Robert Pollack (Ten., A&S/Pure Sciences) moved the proposed revision as a friendly amendment. He said the revision was simpler and clearer than the version in senators’ packets.

Sen. Andrzej Rapaczynski (Ten., Law) said the language of the resolution seemed to assure that a faculty member who had triplets could get three years of leave. He doubted that this was the intent of the resolution, which he said should be clarified.

Sen. D’Armiento noted that this resolution, unlike the proposed departmental name change, seemed to need more discussion, whether or not a super-majority was present. She suggested postponing action on the resolution until the next plenary. She added that the Senate was also seeing this resolution now for the first time.

Sen. O'Halloran said the current Faculty Handbook had already lifted the two-child, two-year limit on the exemption from counted service, with additional exemptions based solely on the number of children, not the number of pregnancies. She said the Executive Committee had not had a chance to discuss this issue, though she had addressed it in an email that included the provost. Her understanding was that the language of the Handbook and of the present resolution should be based on the number of children, even if they arrive in multiple births.

Sen. O'Halloran mentioned another issue that needed explanation—the difference between parental and medical leave. She said the practice has been for female faculty to get their medical leave and their parental leave together, to be added up. The Arts and Sciences has moved to a new application of this policy that separates medical leave from parental leave, in response to complaints from women that the policy has given men the same benefit as women, when men don't need medical leave for pregnancy or childbirth. She said these issues need more discussion before a vote, whether a super-majority is present or not.

Sen. D'Armiento said that the revised resolution before the Senate was concerned only with eligibility of service for parents, and not with the parental workload. She said it was important to keep these issues separate. But she agreed that the question of whether parents get a year for each child in a multiple birth needed to be clarified.

Latha Venkataraman, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, spoke on behalf of Interim Provost Ira Katznelson, who was unable to attend. She said the language of the Statutes is applied for each birth, not for each child. She said every birth entitles a faculty member to extend their tenure clock by one year. Currently, a faculty member who has more than two births cannot extend his or her tenure clock beyond two years. Vice Provost Venkataraman said Provosts Alan Brinkley, John Coatsworth and now Ira Katznelson all agreed that this limit on the number of years by which the tenure clock could be extended for each birth should be removed from the Statutes.

Vice Provost Venkataraman said she was not arguing about multiple births. She said separate edits may be needed to clarify this point. But the purpose of the present resolution was to remove the two-child limit, so that faculty who have three or more children while they're on the tenure track can get their clock extended by the same number of years. She said the number of requests for such extensions has been very small, and people don't have more children in order to extend their tenure clock. The point is that in the rare case that someone has a third child they should be allowed to extend their tenure clock.

Sen. D'Armiento said senators would find a way to clarify the question of how to account for multiple births.

Sen. Freyer said Faculty Affairs would review the present discussion, and offer new wording.

Sen. Daniel Savin (Research Officers) praised the resolution as an important improvement in the academic pipeline for faculty. But he focused on another group that he said was important to the academic pipeline—postdocs. He said Columbia needs to make a more serious commitment to postdocs during this phase of their careers, to make it easier for them to have children if they want to.

Sen. Orin Ross (Stu., TC) asked how the extension of the tenure clock might affect Ph.D. students. If an advisor has two or three children over the course of a student's five-year graduate school career, the student will have only a couple of years of the advisor's guidance. Speaking from experience, Sen. D'Armiento said many faculty have their child and go back to work. The tenure clock is stopped for a year, but their work goes on.

Sen. D'Armiento hoped to see the resolution in October, with revisions from Faculty Affairs.

Annual committee reports for 2018-19.

Research Officers. Sen. Savin, the chair, presented the report along with Sen. Regina Martuscello (Professional Research Officers), referring to PowerPoint slides.

Commission on the Status of Women. Sen D'Armiento, the former chair of the Commission, said that Prof. Jessica Bulman-Pozen gave a presentation to the Senate last May about female advancement on the Law School faculty. The full report on the Law School was now in senators' packets. Sen. D'Armiento also introduced her successor as chair, Sen. Susan Witte (Ten., SSW), along with vice chair Paola Valenti (NT, SIPA).

Campus Planning and Physical Development. Sen. John Donaldson (Ten., Bus.), the chair, presented the report, referring to the text on screen.

Other business

Sen. Greg Freyer (NT, SPH) raised two issues. One was the problem of the super-majority, which had prevented Senate action at the present meeting. He said Senate groups had in recent years discussed possible solutions, including online voting, and should now complete that effort.

Sen. D'Armiento said the Structure and Operations Committee had spent time on this problem, and should perhaps revisit it now.

Speaking now as co-chair of the Nontenured Caucus, Sen. Freyer said the group planned to change its name, freeing it of the negative associations of defining itself by what it is *not*. Henceforth, it may refer to itself as the Faculty Caucus. If tenured senators want a distinct name for their group, Sen. Freyer said, they might call themselves the Tenured Faculty Caucus.

Sen. Freyer said it also seemed wrong to him that the Executive Committee chair is selected entirely by the tenured caucus, with no role for his caucus. He wanted to see that rule changed.

Adjournment. Sen. D'Armiento adjourned the meeting at around 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Mathewson, Senate staff

University Senate

Proposed: October 25, 2019

Adopted: October 25, 2019

In favor-Opposed-Abstained: 75-3-2

RESOLUTION TO RENAME THE DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY

WHEREAS the Pharmacology Department in the Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons has a long and distinguished history of research, and

WHEREAS the Department now seeks to modernize its focus, with a greater commitment to cellular and molecular approaches and enhanced attention to the translational implications of its research, and

WHEREAS the P&S Faculty Council and the Dean have approved a proposal from the Pharmacology Department to rename itself in a way that reflects these new priorities;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate approve the attached proposal to adopt the new name: Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate ask the Trustees to amend Chapter IV of the University Statutes (“Departments”) to establish the new name.

Proponent: Education Committee



VAGELOS COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS

CORY ABATE-SHEN, PH.D.
Chair, Dept. of Pharmacology
Robert Sonneborn Professor
of Pharmacology and Professor of Urology,
Pathology & Cell Biology, Medicine,
and Systems Biology

Herbert Irving Cancer Center
1130 St. Nicholas Avenue
New York, NY 10032
Tel. 212-851-4731
Email: cabateshen@columbia.edu

May 22, 2019

Lee Goldman, M.D.
Executive Vice President and Dean
Faculties of Health Sciences and Medicine
Chief Executive, Columbia University Medical Center

Dear Dr. Goldman,

I am writing to request that the name of the Department of Pharmacology be changed to the **Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics**. The Department of Pharmacology at Columbia University has a long history of research excellence in classical pharmacology, particularly in the area of ion channels and cardiovascular pharmacology. This name change is consistent with my vision for transforming the department to emphasize a modernized basic research focus with enhanced translational emphasis and integral collaborations with clinical departments. I envision that the department will leverage existing and emerging strengths in cancer pharmacology, cardiovascular pharmacology, and neuropharmacology to focus on cellular and molecular mechanisms and signaling pathways that are of potential clinical relevance. Our recruitment efforts will seek to expand research in cellular metabolism, epigenetics, chemical biology, the cellular proteome, drug discovery, and medicinal chemistry, which I envision will enhance the department and the medical school as a whole.

At the first formal faculty meeting of my tenure as chair, I presented this vision for the department and the proposed name change to the **Department of Molecular Pharmacology and Therapeutics**. Of the 18 faculty (5 primary, 1 emeritus, and 12 secondary) in the department, 11 (4 and 7 secondary) were in attendance at the meeting and all voted in favor of the name change. Those who were not in attendance were queried by email and 6 faculty (1 primary, 1 emeritus, and 4 secondary) responded affirmatively; we are awaiting a response from 1 faculty member.

Given the strong support among the department faculty, I would like to propose this name change for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Cory Abate-Shen, Ph.D.

Chair, Department of Pharmacology
Robert Sonneborn Professor of Pharmacology
Professor of Urology, Pathology & Cell Biology, Medicine, and Systems Biology

Lee Goldman, MD

*Dean of the Faculties of Health Sciences
and Medicine
Harold and Margaret Hatch Professor*



*Chief Executive
Columbia University Irving Medical Center*

*Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
Mailman School of Public Health
College of Dental Medicine
School of Nursing*

July 15, 2019

Melissa Begg, PhD
Vice Provost for Academic Programs
Columbia University
405B Low Memorial Library
535 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027

Dear Melissa,

Attached is a request from Dr. Cory Abate-Shen, PhD, newly appointed Chairwoman of the department of Pharmacology, that the name of the department be changed to reflect its expanded and more contemporary research mission. The rationale presented is based on the expansion of the research mission to include a stronger emphasis on basic and translational science that may have clinical therapeutic relevance. Dr. Abate-Shen discussed this change with members of the department who voted unanimously in favor of the name change. The VP&S Faculty Council also unanimously approved the proposal.

I support this proposal as I believe it will facilitate recruitment of new faculty with broader areas of expertise synergistic with existing programs in cancer, cardiovascular disease and precision medicine.

Best personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Lee Goldman, MD

cc: Anne L. Taylor, MD
Cory Abate-Shen, PhD

**RESOLUTION TO AMEND THE UNIVERSITY STATUTES
TO PROVIDE MORE TIME FOR ELIGIBLE FACULTY WHO ARE NEW PARENTS
TO PREPARE FOR TENURE**

WHEREAS the Senate Resolution to Amend the Statutes To Provide for Childcare Appointment Extension for Faculty, adopted on February 24, 1995, added a new Section to the University Statutes—71 (c) (2)—that extended the clock for faculty on the tenure track who were new parents; and

WHEREAS that policy allowed a faculty member one additional year to prepare for tenure for each child born during this period, with a limit of two children; and

WHEREAS in the years since the adoption of that policy, faculty have asked the administration to lift the two-child limit on eligibility to extend the tenure clock for parental leave, and instead to allow tenure-track faculty an additional year of preparation for *any* child born during this period; and

WHEREAS Interim Provost Ira Katznelson joins Provost Emeritus John Coatsworth in supporting this principle and recommends its incorporation into University policy;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University Senate seek now to amend Section 71 (c) (2) of the University Statutes to assure additional time to cover all eligible children of tenure-track faculty as follows [additions in bold, deletions struck through]:

Any professor, associate professor, assistant professor or instructor appointed with stated term who assumes primary responsibility for the care of a child **within one year of the birth or adoption of the child** ~~under one year of age~~ may, at the discretion of the President and upon written request to his or her department, be eligible for ~~up to~~ one additional year of full-time service, which will not count in setting the limits on nontenured service set forth in Section 71(b). **In the case of the birth or adoption of multiple children at the same time, eligibility** ~~Eligibility~~ is limited to one year of full-time service for each **set of children** ~~child with a maximum of two years~~. Faculty who have periods of appointment excluded from the eight-year limit on nontenured service by virtue of leaves of absence to care for a child may not have additional periods excluded under this Section 71(c)(2) **for that child**. The additional year or years of nontenured service provided in this Section 71(c)(2) may be taken

in addition to the other exceptions to the normal limits on nontenured service provided in Sections 71(b), 71(c)(1) and 71(f).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate ask the Trustees to approve this amendment to the Statutes.

Proponent: Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom, and Tenure Committee

**Resolution to Amend the University Statutes To Provide More Time for Eligible Faculty
Who Are New Parents to Prepare for Tenure**

Background

1. What is the purpose of the present resolution?

A 1995 Senate resolution allowed junior faculty parents additional “eligibility of service” in the form of one additional year, beyond the usual eight-year limit, to prepare for tenure after the addition of each of two children born or adopted while the parent is on the tenure track. Sec. 71 (c) (2) of the University Statutes notes, “Eligibility is limited to one year of full-time service for each child, with a maximum of two years.”

The present resolution extends the reach of the 1994 policy, removing this two-year limit with a view to the policy being applied for *any* birth or adoption (single or multiple) that takes place while the parent is on the tenure track at Columbia University.

2. Does the present resolution apply only to tenure-track faculty?

Yes, the resolution concerns adjustments in the terms of appointment for tenure-track faculty. All other full-time officers of instruction, whether tenured or not, are entitled to parental workload relief for any birth or adoption (singular or multiple).

3. If both parents are tenure-track faculty at the University, do they both receive an additional year to prepare for tenure?

Yes, if each claims to be the primary caregiver for a specific period of time (e.g., a semester) and if they both declare this status before the child is one year old. However, both parents cannot be primary caregivers at the same time.

4. In the case of a multiple birth or adoption, does the tenure-track faculty member receive an additional year of eligibility of service for each child born?

No, a birth or adoption event, whether multiple or single, entitles the parent to one additional year.

5. What professional obligations must the faculty member continue to meet while on parental workload relief?

While they are excused from teaching duties and from serving on administrative committees, faculty on parental leave are “expected to make themselves available for consultations with students and to continue their research,” (Faculty Handbook p.66, Parental Workload Relief Plan).

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PROVOST

October 23, 2019

Letty Moss-Salentijn

Co-Chair, Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom, and Tenure Committee

Edward V. Zegarelli Professor of Dentistry (in Anatomy and Cell Biology) and Vice Dean for Curriculum Innovation and Interprofessional Education

Greg Freyer

Co-Chair, Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom, and Tenure Committee

Professor and Faculty Director of Graduate Education of the Department of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health

Dear Letty and Greg,

Changes to Section 71 (c) (2) of the Statutes require the approval of the Provost, the University Senate, and the Board of Trustees. I am, therefore, submitting this request to clarify and update Section 71 (c) (2) in four ways:

1. To amend the phrase "the care of a child under one year of age" to "the care of a child within one year of the birth or adoption of the child" to make it clear that adopted children do not need to be "under one year of age" but that that "primary responsibility for the care of" the child needs to occur within one year of the adoption;
2. To remove the clause "with a maximum of two years" to clarify that this policy no longer applies to just two children;
3. To clarify what "child" means in the following sentence so that the revisions of (2) and (3) would revise the sentence to read "In the case of the birth or adoption of multiple children at the same time, eligibility is limited to one year of full-time service for each set of children;
4. To make the sentence "Faculty who have periods of appointment excluded from the eight-year limit on nontenured service by virtue of leaves of absence to care for a child may not have additional periods excluded under this Section 71 (c) (2)" unambivalent so that it clearly states "for that child." Thus, the proposed sentence would now read: "Faculty who have periods of appointment excluded from the eight-year limit on nontenured service by virtue of leaves of absence to care for a child may not have additional periods excluded under this Section 71 (c) (2) for that child."

I believe that these proposed changes strengthen the policy by recognizing the needs of new parents who are on tenure track, regardless of the number of children they have, and remove the ambiguities in the interpretation of the policy that have arisen over the years. I am therefore submitting these revisions to this section of the Statutes to the Committee on Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom, and Tenure and then to the full Senate.

I warmly appreciate the careful attention that you have given over the past few weeks to my request and the suggestions you have made to make this revision more meaningful to those impacted by it.

Sincerely,



Ira Katznelson
Interim Provost

University Senate

Proposed: October 25, 2019
Adopted: October 25, 2019
In favor-Opposed-Abstained : 68-0-4

RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

WHEREAS Indigenous Peoples' Day has been celebrated across the United States in many forms;

WHEREAS recognizing this day would celebrate Indigenous excellence by acknowledging the achievements and resilience of, and historical injustices survived by, Indigenous peoples;

WHEREAS recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day demonstrates to future and current students that Columbia University respects and celebrates indigeneity on campus;

WHEREAS recognizing this day is in line with Columbia University's values as a multicultural diverse community; and

WHEREAS Columbia University recognizes that the Lenape people have lived, and continue to live, on the grounds of Manhattan and Columbia University has with the dedication of a plaque recognized their "displacement, dispossession, and continued presence",

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Columbia University recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October of every year.

Proponents: Student Affairs Committee and Commission on Diversity

Student Affairs Committee and the Commission on Diversity

IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

Introduction

Columbia's position as a global research university offers a platform for immense influence and positive change. Here is a proposal for Columbia to formally recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day. Recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day at Columbia would demonstrate that the University respects and celebrates indigeneity on campus.

Indigenous Students at Columbia

The Native American and Indigenous community at Columbia is a thriving group of students committed to the academic rigor of this university and to the strengthening of our growing student body. Multiple student-led organizations support Indigenous students.

The **Native American Council** has over 70 active members from Indigenous nations across the Americas who attend general body and executive board meetings, plan an annual powwow, collaborate with the Admissions Office to recruit and welcome incoming Indigenous students to campus, and organize events for Indigenous Peoples' Day.

The committee for **Native American Heritage Month** (NAHM) organizes events for the month of November, recognized nationally as Native American Heritage Month, to spread awareness about Indigenous culture and to celebrate our community. Past NAHM themes have included Indigenous feminism, art, and education. In 2018, the committee released the first NAHM Zine, sharing our experience as Indigenous students on campus. NAHM has long been an opportunity for Indigenous students on campus to discuss critical Indigenous issues and to engage with alumni, activists, and elders.

Founded in 2013, **Manhattan House** is a special-interest community (SIC) in River Hall whose mission is to support Indigenous students and their allies on campus. Events hosted by Manhattan House include community bonding activities, "Frybread Fridays," and film and television series screenings. Manhattan House is committed to creating a strong sense of community for the 10 students who live in the suite.

Mālama Hawai'i is a student organization dedicated to supporting Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander students and to raising awareness of Polynesian culture on campus. They hold weekly meetings, organize an annual lū'au, and host Hawaiian language workshops throughout the year.

This year, the Native American Council will elect its first AISES (American Indian Science and Engineering Society) representative and launch a Columbia university **AISES chapter**. Cornell, Yale, Stanford, and MIT have strong nationally recognized chapters already. By beginning our own AISES chapter, the Indigenous community at Columbia is taking steps of its own to improve access to academic and professional opportunities for Indigenous students on campus.

These student-led groups are integral to the values of inclusion and diversity at this university.

Indigenous Peoples' Day as a Concept

Indigenous Peoples' Day falls on the second Monday of every October. Recognizing Columbus Day as Indigenous Peoples' Day was first proposed in 1977 at a United Nations sponsored conference held in Geneva, Switzerland. The subject of the meeting was the discrimination faced by Indigenous peoples in North America.

Since then, Indigenous Peoples' Day has been celebrated across the United States in many forms. At Brown University in 2018, a panel was held on the discussion of contemporary Indigenous activism; in Berkeley, California an annual powwow is held in celebration of the day; Tufts University recognizes Indigenous Peoples' Day as a university holiday and holds no classes.

As a holiday, Indigenous Peoples' Day emphasizes "Indigenous excellence" by recognizing the achievements, resilience, and historical injustices survived by Indigenous peoples. The Native American Council recognizes the activism that took place, particularly in places like New York City, for the creation of Columbus Day. Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day does not suggest condemnation of Italian Americans or work for their derecognition. We only mean to insist that the historical record of Christopher Columbus makes it clear that the moral cost of recognizing him as an individual to be honored outweighs any initial benefits. Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day would not mean the replacement or public condemnation of Columbus Day, only an affirmation of Indigenous Peoples' Day.

Indigenous Peoples' Day is officially recognized in more than 100 cities, states, and universities combined:

STATES:

- Alaska
- Minnesota
- Vermont
- South Dakota*
- Nevada
- Hawaii
- Oregon
- New Mexico
- Florida
- Maine
- Oklahoma**

CITIES:

- Anchorage, Alaska
- Nashville, Tennessee
- San Francisco, California
- Berkeley, California
- Los Angeles, California
- Los Angeles County, California
- Santa Cruz, California
- San Fernando, California**
- Burbank, California
- Long Beach, California
- San Luis Obispo, California
- Watsonville, California
- Seattle, Washington
- Olympia, Washington
- Spokane, Washington
- Snohomish County, Washington
- Yakima, Washington
- Bainbridge, Washington
- Tacoma, Washington
- Minneapolis, Minnesota
- Bemidji, Minnesota
- Grand Rapids, Minnesota**
- Red Wing, Minnesota
- St. Paul, Minnesota
- Grand Marais, Minnesota
- Cook County, Minnesota
- Denver, Colorado
- Durango, Colorado
- Boulder, Colorado
- Phoenix, Arizona
- Alpena, Michigan
- Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Traverse City, Michigan
- Alpena, Michigan
- East Lansing, Michigan
- Ypsilanti, Michigan
- Missoula, Montana
- Bozeman, Montana
- Lincoln, Nebraska
- Albuquerque, New Mexico
- Santa Fe, New Mexico
- Sandoval County, New Mexico**
- Portland, Oregon
- Eugene, Oregon
- Corvallis, Oregon
- Multnomah County, Oregon
- Akron County, New York**
- Lewiston, New York**
- Newstead, New York**
- Village of Lewiston, New York**
- Tompkins County, New York**
- Ithaca, New York
- Anadarko, Oklahoma
- Norman, Oklahoma
- Tulsa, Oklahoma
- Tahlequah, Oklahoma
- Okmulgee Oklahoma
- Carrboro, North Carolina
- Asheville, North Carolina**
- Belfast, Maine
- Bangor, Maine

- Orono, Maine
- Brunswick, Maine**
- Starks, Maine
- Portland, Maine
- Bexar County, Texas
- Brookline, Massachusetts
- Cambridge, Massachusetts
- Amherst, Massachusetts
- Northampton, Massachusetts
- Somerville, Massachusetts
- Harpers Ferry, West Virginia
- Lawrence, Kansas
- Iowa City, Iowa
- Johnson County, Iowa
- Davenport, Iowa
- Durham, New Hampshire**
- Moscow, Idaho
- Oberlin, Idaho
- Salt Lake City, Utah**
- Charlottesville, Virginia
- Austin Texas
- Flagstaff, Arizona
- Eau Claire, Wisconsin
- Madison, Wisconsin**
- Fargo, North Dakota
- Chicago, Illinois**
- Oak Park, Illinois
- Cincinnati, Ohio
- Detroit, Michigan
- West Hartford, Connecticut
- South Fulton, Georgia
- Boise, Idaho
- Bloomington, Indiana
- San Marcos, Texas

UNIVERSITIES:

- Brown University, Rhode Island (2016)
- Harvard University, Massachusetts (2017)
- Cornell University, New York (2017)
- State University of New York, New York
- Syracuse University, New York
- Fort Lewis College, Colorado
- Tufts University, Massachusetts
- Pittsfield, Massachusetts
- Virginia Tech University, Virginia
- University of Alaska Fairbanks, Alaska
- University of Alaska Southeast, Alaska
- Alaska Pacific University, Alaska
- California State University, California
- Santa Rosa Junior College, California
- University of Kansas, Kansas
- Oklahoma City University, Oklahoma
- University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma
- University of Central Oklahoma, Oklahoma
- Southern Oregon University, Oregon
- University of Oregon, Oregon
- University of Montana, Montana
- Montana State University, Montana
- Texas Christian University
- Boise State University, Idaho
- Arizona State University, Arizona
- Edgewood College, Wisconsin
- University of Texas El Paso, Texas
- University of Illinois, Illinois
- Ohio University, Ohio

- North Carolina State University, North Carolina
- Washington State University, Washington
- University of Utah, Utah
- Minnesota State University, Minnesota
- Wake Forest University, North Carolina
- Willamette University, Oregon
- Florida International University, Florida
- Bemidji State University, Minnesota
- Metropolitan State University, Minnesota
- Portland State University, Oregon

* Celebrates Native American Day ** Celebrates both Indigenous Peoples' Day and Columbus Day

Conclusion

The Native American Council has proudly led campus-wide celebrations of Indigenous Peoples' Day for years and we ask the University to join the movement towards widespread recognition of Indigenous Peoples' Day. Our request for this resolution is to ask the University to formally recognize Indigenous Peoples' Day on the second Monday of October every year. It is an exciting time for Columbia to be at the forefront of honoring Indigenous peoples, lands, and history. Recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day is an opportunity to stand in solidarity alongside other rigorous academic institutions that actively support the holiday. Recognition will benefit all members of the Columbia community by creating academic spaces full of creativity, passion, respect, and better learning. Stand with the Native American Council, Indigenous students, and countless other students, alumni, faculty and community members in actively recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day.

**RESOLUTION FOR COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY TO ENCOURAGE VOTING
IN OUR COMMUNITY AND ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

WHEREAS it is important to maintain a thriving democracy in the United States of America, and civic engagement is paramount to the success of democracy;

WHEREAS civic engagement can include, among other actions, participation in government through the process of voting;

WHEREAS encouraging critical thought and civic engagement is central to the mission of Columbia University;

WHEREAS Columbia University was the first institution of higher learning and the only in the Ivy League to declare Election Day and the Monday prior an Academic Holiday;

WHEREAS it is ever more vital for Columbia University to promote the values of civic engagement and voting in an era of challenges to democratic norms;

WHEREAS Columbia University is a global community consisting of over 30,000 students, 4,000 full-time faculty, 15,000 employees, and 350,000 alumni worldwide, who together, as both individuals and as a community, can significantly impact the world;

WHEREAS President Bollinger has stated that as a modern research University, Columbia is a living civic community with a profound responsibility to bring the values of academic knowledge and respect for truth to fully engage our society and the world;

WHEREAS Columbia University students have launched crucial initiatives to promote civic engagement and voter registration, including the Columbia Political Union's Voting Week and the student organization Columbia Votes;

WHEREAS the Office of Government and Community Affairs offers robust tools to help students, faculty, and alumni vote, including in-person registration assistance and access to online resources such as TurboVote, Who's on the Ballot, and connections with voter education resources;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that in Columbia University's position as a preeminent modern research university, and in this 50th anniversary of the formation of the Columbia University Senate, Columbia University reaffirms its commitment to the principle of civic engagement by taking actions to encourage voting in our community and across the country

Proponents: External Relations and Research Policy Committee
Student Affairs Committee

University Senate_Resolution for Columbia to Encourage Voting in Our Community and Across the Country_20191025

[Home](#) » [Voter Registration](#)

Voter Registration



To register to vote, federal law requires that voters be at least 18 years of age by the time of the general election and citizens of the United States. Specific state eligibility requirements and information on registering are available from local election boards.

In New York

Voter registration forms are available at our offices, located at 309 Low Library. their resources can be found below.

New York City Board of Elections: [New York City Board of Elections](#) provides information on upcoming elections, polling locations, and how to become a poll worker.

Columbia Turbo Vote: For those new to the voting process, [Columbia Turbo Vote](#) is a tool that makes it easy to register and vote for hometown issues while away at College.

Who's on the Ballot: [Who's on the Ballot](#) provides New York City residents information on polling places, candidates, sample ballots and voter registration information. Who's on the Ballot is a not-for profit project of the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

New York State Board of Elections: [New York State Board of Elections](#) provides information on campaign finance rules, voter registration forms, and enrollment verification to confirm your voter registration. Not sure if you're registered to vote in New York State? Visit the [NYS Voter Registration search](#) to find out.

University Senate Resolution for Columbia to Encourage Voting in Our Community and Across the Country_20191025

Residents of Other States

Most states allow voters to submit a National Mail Voter Registration form. Registration forms, state requirements and information on candidates and issues are available from a number of sites, including [Congress.org](#). For a state by state listing of voter registration deadlines and requirements for both primary and general elections, please go to [Project Vote Smart](#) and select your home state from the voter registration drop down menu.

Absentee Ballots

Students living away from home can register either at their home or school address, depending on state law. If you have already registered at home, and you want to register at your school address, you must fill out a local registration form and make note that it is a change of address. It is important to update your registration each time you move.

If you are registered at your home address while you're at school, and wish to cast your ballot in your home district, **remember to request an absentee ballot at least 30 days before the election**. Check with your state election board for the exact deadline. If you have any questions regarding voter registration, please call the office at 212-854-5915.

If you wish to register at your school address, be sure to use the postal address of your dorm building as your home address, not your campus mail box.

General Voter Education

For additional resources and information on voting in local and national elections, please visit the following sites:

- [League of Women Voters](#)
- [Federal Election Commission](#)

Government Relations Quick Links

[Government Relations Homepage](#)
[Lobbying Guidelines](#)
[Higher Education Associations](#)
[Voter Registration](#)
[Congressional Internships](#)
[Local Elected Officials](#)

Helpful Resources

Want to contact your representatives in Washington? Contact information can be found at the [US Senate](#) and [US House of Representatives](#) websites.

Want to know when Congress is in session? View the US House and Senate [Congressional Calendars](#).

Want to search for a piece of federal legislation? Use THOMAS, the [Congressional Legislative Search Engine](#).

Want to know when your New York legislators are in session? View the [New York State Legislative Calendar](#).

Interested in engaging elected officials or other policy makers on legislative matters? View our [Policy Governing Lobbying Activities](#).

Pew Research Center

U.S. trails most developed countries in voter turnout

By [Drew DeSilver](#)

Nearly 56% of the U.S. voting-age population cast ballots in the 2016 presidential election, representing a slight uptick compared with 2012 but less than in the record year of 2008. While most Americans – 70% in a [recent Pew Research Center survey](#) – say high turnout in presidential elections is very important, what constitutes “high turnout” depends very much on which country you’re looking at and which measuring stick you use.

The [Census Bureau](#) estimated that there were 245.5 million Americans ages 18 and older in November 2016, about 157.6 million of whom reported being registered to vote. (While political scientists typically define turnout as votes cast divided by the number of *eligible* voters, in practice turnout calculations usually are based on the estimated voting-age population, or VAP.) Just over 137.5 million people told the census they voted in 2016, somewhat higher than the actual number of votes tallied – nearly 136.8 million, according to figures compiled by the [Office of the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives](#), though that figure includes more than 170,000 blank, spoiled or otherwise null ballots. That sort of overstatement has long been noted by [researchers](#); the comparisons and charts in this analysis use the House Clerk’s figure, along with data from the [International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance](#) (IDEA) and individual nations’ statistical and elections authorities.

The 55.7% VAP turnout in 2016 puts the U.S. behind most of its peers in the [Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development](#) (OECD), most of whose members are highly developed, democratic states. Looking at the most recent nationwide election in each OECD nation, the U.S. placed 26th out of 32 (current VAP estimates weren’t available for three countries).

By international standards, U.S. voter turnout is low:

Votes cast in most recent national election as a ...

Country	% of voting-age population	% of registered voters
Belgium (2014)*	87.21%	89.37%
Sweden (2014)	82.61%	85.81%
Denmark (2015)	80.34%	85.89%
Australia (2016)*	78.96%	90.98%
South Korea (2017)	77.92%	77.23%
Netherlands (2017)	77.31%	81.93%
Israel (2015)	76.10%	72.34%
New Zealand (2017)	75.65%	79.01%
Finland (2015)	73.14%	66.85%
Hungary (2018)	71.65%	69.68%
Norway (2017)	70.59%	78.22%
Germany (2017)	69.11%	76.15%
Austria (2017)	68.79%	80.00%
France (2017)	67.93%	74.56%
Mexico (2012)*	65.97%	63.08%
Italy (2018)	65.28%	73.05%
Czech Republic (2018)	63.44%	66.57%
U.K. (2017)	63.25%	69.31%
Greece (2015)*	62.14%	56.16%
Canada (2015)	62.12%	68.28%
Portugal (2015)	61.75%	55.84%

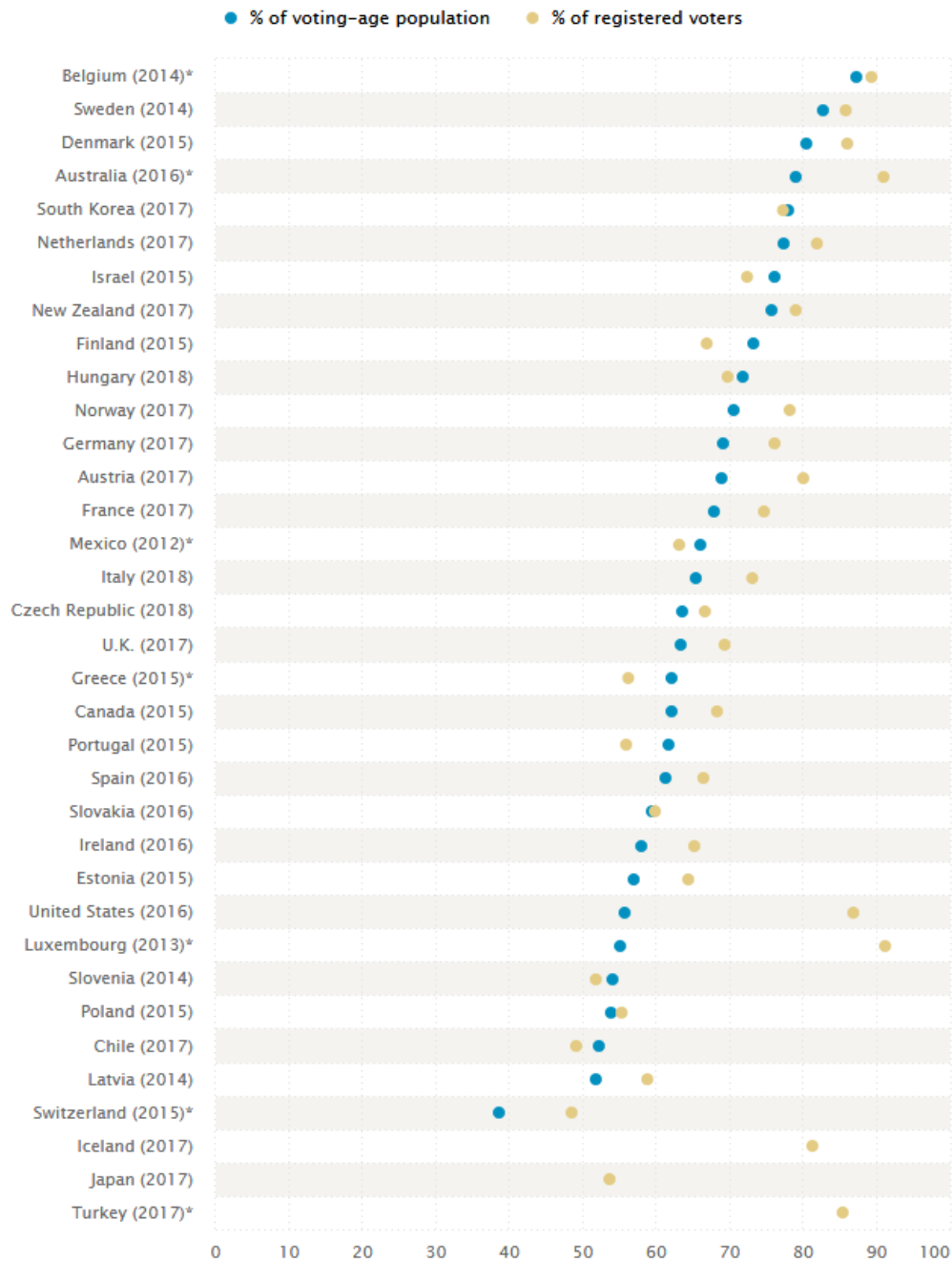
Country	% of voting-age population	% of registered voters
Spain (2016)	61.17%	66.48%
Slovakia (2016)	59.43%	59.82%
Ireland (2016)	58.04%	65.09%
Estonia (2015)	56.82%	64.23%
United States (2016)	55.70%	86.80%
Luxembourg (2013)*	55.12%	91.15%
Slovenia (2014)	54.09%	51.73%
Poland (2015)	53.83%	55.34%
Chile (2017)	52.20%	49.02%
Latvia (2014)	51.69%	58.80%
Switzerland (2015)*	38.63%	48.40%
Iceland (2017)	NA	81.20%
Japan (2017)	NA	53.65%
Turkey (2017)*	NA	85.43%

Note: Voting-age population (VAP) turnout is derived from estimates of each country's VAP by the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance. Registered-voter (RV) turnout derived from each country's reported registration data. Because of methodology differences, in some countries estimated VAP is lower than reported RV. Current voting-age population estimates for Iceland, Japan and Turkey unavailable.

*National law makes voting compulsory. In addition, one Swiss canton has compulsory voting. Source: Pew Research Center calculations based on data from International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, European Election Database, United States Election Project, Office of the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives and various national election authorities.

Pew Research Center

Votes cast in most recent national election as a ...



The highest turnout rates among OECD nations were in Belgium (87.2%), Sweden (82.6%) and Denmark (80.3%). Switzerland consistently has the lowest turnout in the OECD: In 2015, less than 39% of the Swiss voting-age population cast ballots for the federal legislature.

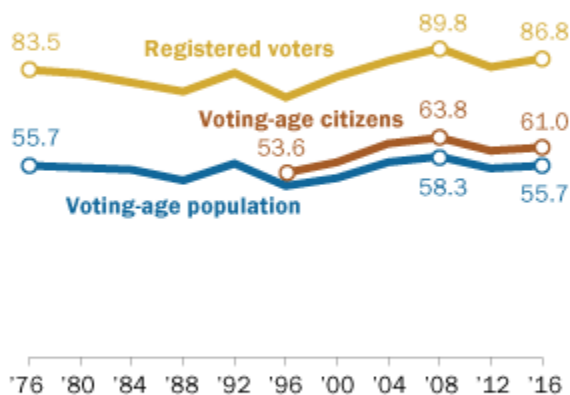
One factor behind Belgium's high turnout rates – between 83% and 95% of VAP in every election for the past four decades – may be that it is one of the 24 nations around the world (and six in the OECD) with some form of compulsory voting, according to IDEA. (One canton in Switzerland, also an OECD member nation, has compulsory voting.)

While [compulsory-voting laws](#) aren't always strictly enforced, their presence or absence can have dramatic impacts on turnout. In Chile, for example, turnout plunged after the country moved from compulsory to voluntary voting in 2012 and began automatically enrolling eligible citizens. Even though essentially all voting-age citizens were registered for Chile's 2013 elections, turnout in the presidential race plunged to 42%, versus 87% in 2010 when the compulsory-voting law was still in place. (Turnout rebounded slightly in last year's presidential election, to 49% of registered voters.)

Chile's situation points to yet another complicating factor when comparing turnout rates across countries: the distinction between who's eligible to vote and who's actually registered to do so. In many countries, the government takes the lead in getting people's names on the rolls – whether by registering them automatically once they become eligible (as in, for example, Sweden or Germany) or by aggressively seeking out and registering eligible voters (as in the UK and Australia). As a result, turnout looks pretty similar regardless of whether you're looking at voting-age population or registered voters.

Turnout in U.S. presidential elections

Votes cast as a share of ...



Source: Census Bureau (population estimates), House Clerk's office and Pew Research Center (vote totals).

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

In the U.S., by contrast, registration is mainly an individual responsibility. And registered voters represent a much smaller share of potential voters in the U.S. than just about any other OECD country. Only about 64% of the U.S. voting-age population (and 70% of voting-age *citizens*) was registered in 2016, according to the Census Bureau report, compared with 91% in Canada (2015) and the UK (2017), 96% in Sweden (2014), and 99% in Slovakia (2016).

As a consequence, turnout comparisons based only on registered voters may not be very meaningful. For instance, U.S. turnout in 2016 was 86.8% of registered voters, fourth-highest among OECD countries (and highest among those without compulsory voting). But registered voters in the U.S. are much more of a self-selected group, already more likely to vote because they took the trouble to register themselves.

There are even more ways to calculate turnout. Michael McDonald, a political scientist at the University of Florida who runs the United States Election Project, [estimates turnout](#) as a share of the “voting-eligible population” by subtracting noncitizens and ineligible felons from the voting-age population and adding eligible overseas voters. Using those calculations, U.S. turnout improves somewhat, to [59.3%](#) of the 2016 voting-eligible population. However, McDonald doesn’t calculate comparable estimates for other countries.

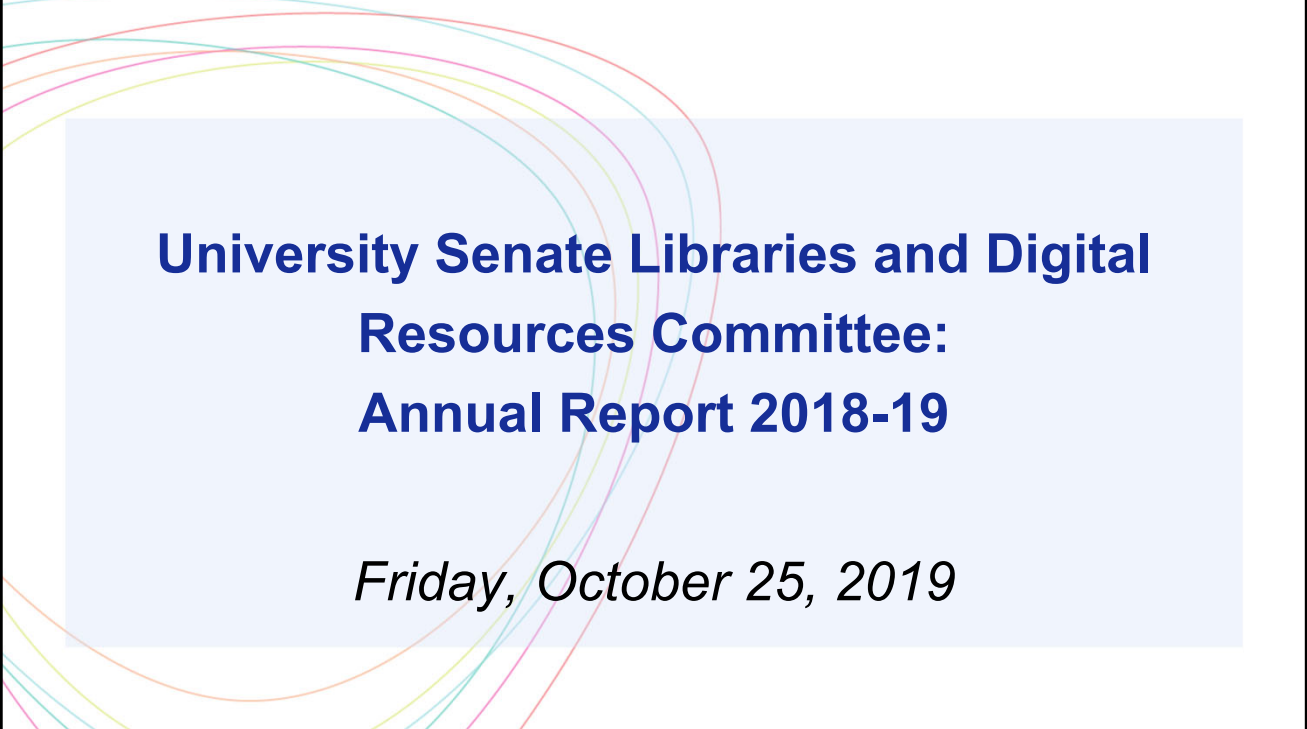
No matter how they’re measured, U.S. turnout rates have been fairly consistent over the past several decades, despite some election-to-election variation. Since 1976, voting-age turnout has remained within an 8.5-percentage-point range – from just under 50% in 1996, when Bill Clinton was re-elected, to just over 58% in 2008, when Barack Obama won the White House. However, turnout [varies considerably](#) among different racial, ethnic and age groups.

In several other OECD countries, turnout has drifted lower in recent decades. Greece, which has a compulsory-voting law on the books (though it’s not enforced), saw turnout in parliamentary elections fall from 89% in 2000 to 62% in September 2015. In Norway’s parliamentary elections last year, 70.6% of the voting-age population cast ballots – the lowest turnout rate in at least four decades. And in Slovenia, after a burst of enthusiasm following the country’s independence from Yugoslavia in 1992 (when 85% of the voting-age population cast ballots), turnout fell rapidly – sinking to 54% in 2014, a drop of 31 percentage points in just over two decades of democracy.

On the other hand, turnout in recent elections has bumped up in several OECD countries. In Hungary’s parliamentary elections this past April, nearly 72% of the voting-age population voted, up from 63.3% in 2014. In the Netherlands, turnout rose from 71% in 2012 to 77.3% in March 2017. And turnout inched above 69% in September 2017’s German parliamentary election – the highest level since 2005.

Note: This is an update of a post originally published May 6, 2015.

Source: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/05/21/u-s-voter-turnout-trails-most-developed-countries/> Last visited October 2, 2019



University Senate Libraries and Digital Resources Committee: Annual Report 2018-19

Friday, October 25, 2019



Overview of Libraries Activities

1. Foundations for Research Computing
2. Preservation and access of 10,000+ audiovisual items
3. Significant "unhiding" of rare books, archival and born-digital
4. Harvard joins ReCAP
5. Relaunch of library.columbia.edu
6. Inclusivity at the libraries: new portraits, and the "Butler Banner"

Foundations for Research Computing

- Collaboration with **Office of Research, CUIT, Libraries, Arts & Sciences, and the SEAS**
- Nearly **20 instructors trained**, with **500+ participants** in 2-day bootcamps and workshops since 2018
- Foundations has committed to training an additional **500 graduate students** in R, Python, TensorFlow and other computational research tools

UPCOMING EVENTS			
WORKSHOPS	BOOTCAMPS	DISTINGUISHED LECTURES	PYTHON USER GROUP
About Workshops			
OCT 11 FRI	Plotting models using R ☞ International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118 St., New York, NY 10027 Research Data Services, Lehman Library, rm 315 Starts in 2 hours	OCT 15 TUE	Text Analysis I: Introduction to Computational Text Analysis. ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in 5 days
OCT 22 TUE	Text Analysis II: Statistical Approaches. ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in 12 days	OCT 29 TUE	Text Analysis III: Advanced Methods ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 208B Starts in 19 days
NOV 4 MON	HPC Open Lab ☞ Northwest Corner Building, 550 W. 120 St., New York, NY 10027 Science & Engineering Library Starts in 25 days	NOV 12 TUE	Python User Group: Probabilistic Programming with Pyro ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in a month
DEC 2 MON	HPC Open Lab ☞ Northwest Corner Building, 550 W. 120 St., New York, NY 10027 Science & Engineering Library Starts in 2 months	NOV 15 TUE	Python User Group: Pandas – The Bare Basics ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in 5 days
		NOV 29 TUE	Python User Group: Training an Optical Character Recognition (OCR) Model ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in 19 days
		NOV 26 TUE	Python User Group: Implementing Historical Algorithms ☞ Butler Library, 535 W. 114 St., New York, NY 10027 203 Starts in 2 months

Please subscribe ☞ to our ListServ to be notified of new events.

 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Foundations for Research Computing

AudioVisual Preservation and Unique Materials Access

- Digitally preserved 4,000+ oral history recordings and 7,000+ uniquely-held item recordings, including Amiri Baraka, Tennessee Williams, Bob Dylan and others
- Additional funding secured from the Mellon Foundation to preserve 20,000+ additional items over two years
- "Unhiding" of collections continues, providing basic records in CLIO for rare books, archival collections, artworks, born-digital and delivered-digital archives



Harvard joins ReCAP

- Founded in 2000 as a collaboration among Columbia, NYPL and Princeton, now fulfills 250,000+ requests annually
- The project has added 7 million+ volumes to CLIO since 2016
- One-third of ReCAP requests are for volumes held by Princeton or NYPL
- Delivery of physical materials within 1-2 business days, scans available within hours
- Integration of Harvard's collection will make millions of additional volumes available to the Columbia community



New Libraries Website

- Library.columbia.edu redesigned and relaunched in 2019, with a focus on making the Libraries' most popular services even more accessible to students and faculty
- Site includes a home for the Collection Policies and Strategies developed by the Provost's Advisory Committee on the Libraries, to help the Columbia community understand how the Libraries acquires and manages different types of materials



Inclusivity and Representation

New portraits on the third-floor of Butler



Winifred Edgerton Merrill
first woman to receive a Columbia degree



Hu Shih
first Chinese-born Columbia student

Inclusivity and Representation

October - December, 2019: "Butler Banner" displays the names of women writers selected by students: Toni Morrison, Diana Chang, Zora Neale Hurston, Ntozake Shange, Maya Angelou, Leslie Marmon Silko, Gloria E Anzaldua and A. Revathi



Participatory Events

#DisruptWikipedia events



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

#DisruptWikipedia



THIS
COLLABORATIVE
ENCYCLOPEDIA
HAS AN
INCLUSIVITY
& PRIVILEGE
PROBLEM.




2020 Benefits Open Enrollment


Benefits Open Enrollment

Monday, November 4 to Friday, November 22, 2019

- Enroll through CUBES, the Columbia University Benefits Enrollment System
- Consider **Electronic Document Delivery** for CUBES-related materials
- To request a **Benefits Information Session** for your Department, please contact the Benefits Service Center
- During Open Enrollment, the Columbia Benefits Service Center is open from **9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**, Monday to Friday



 212-851-7000

 hrbenefits@columbia.edu

Benefits Forum and Expos

Locations	Dates & Times
Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory Monell Building	Wednesday, November 6 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Morningside Alfred Lerner Hall	Thursday, November 7 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Preventive Health Screenings: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Flu vaccinations: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Manhattanville Lenfest Center for the Arts	Tuesday, November 12 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Preventive Health Screenings: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
CUIMC Hammer Health Sciences Center	Wednesday, November 13 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Preventive Health Screenings: 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

What Happens if You Do Not Enroll in 2020 Benefits

You will no longer have coverage for:

- Healthcare Flexible Spending Account (FSA)
- Dependent Care FSA
- Child Care Benefit, if eligible
- Health Savings Account (HSA), if eligible



You will be automatically re-enrolled in your current 2019:

- Medical, Vision and Prescription Drug coverage
- Dental coverage
- Transit/Parking Reimbursement Program (T/PRP) elections
- Life Insurance benefits (Optional, Spouse and Child)
- Long-Term Disability (LTD) benefits
- Voluntary Retirement Savings Plan (VRSP) – you may change your contributions at anytime

What's Not Changing in 2020

- Medical, Vision and Prescription Drug benefits and providers
- Aetna Columbia Dental PPO benefits
- Healthcare FSA contribution: \$2,700*
- Dependent Care FSA contribution: \$5,000*
- Transit/Parking Reimbursement Program contribution: \$265*

- Voluntary Retirement Savings Plan contribution: \$19,000*
If you are age 50 and over, you can contribute an additional \$6,000*

* Subject to change by the IRS



5

What's New in 2020

- Additional Dental plan option: the **Aetna Dental Maintenance Organization (DMO)**
- **SmartSelect** can use past health claims
- Expanded eligibility for **infertility benefit**
- **Out-of-network, medical preventive care** covered at 60%
- Specialty drug supplier BrivoRx now called **OptumRx Specialty Services**
- Your Medical **contributions** will increase
- 2020 Open Enrollment is the last opportunity for **same-sex domestic partners** to be considered benefits eligible

6

What's New in 2020

- One-time opportunity to elect **Optional Long-Term Disability insurance** without providing Evidence of Insurability
- The University's **Child Care contribution** increases to \$4,000
- **Adoption services** now included in the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- **Voluntary Retirement Savings Plan (VRSP)** contributions can now be made in half percentages
- **College Coach**—guidance from college admissions experts—available at no cost
- **Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D)** benefit offered without providing Evidence of Insurability
- 8 new **Voluntary Benefits**

7

Voluntary Benefits – What is Offered

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Accident Insurance |  Auto Insurance |
|  Critical Illness Insurance |  Home Insurance |
|  Hospital Indemnity Insurance |  Identity Theft Protection |
|  Universal Life Insurance with long-term care |  Pet Insurance |

Voluntary Benefits fill gaps in insurance with special rates and options. Eligible employees can elect policies whether covered through the University's medical provider or somewhere else.

To ask questions or enroll, contact Farmington, the University's Voluntary Benefits administrator. For more information visit: humanresources.columbia.edu/voluntary-benefits

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Voluntary Benefits – What is Offered

Accident insurance is provided by *Cigna* and pays for expenses that result from an accident, such as medical bills, hospital transportation and physical therapy.

Critical Illness insurance is provided by *Cigna* and pays benefits if you have a covered illness, such as cancer, a heart attack, stroke and coronary artery disease.

Hospital Indemnity insurance is provided by *Cigna* and covers expenses when you are in the hospital for expected or unexpected medical services. You can use the benefit for hospital admission and other costs associated with a hospital stay including child care.

Universal Life with long-term care insurance is provided by *Trustmark*. The plan combines two key benefits – Permanent Life Insurance and Long Term Care coverage. The Life insurance pays cash benefits directly to beneficiaries and you may use long-term care cash payments for care at home or in a facility.

Voluntary Benefits – What is Offered

Auto insurance is administered by *MetLife* and includes discounted policies on auto, motorcycle, and other vehicles.

Home Insurance is also administered by *MetLife* and includes discounted policies on home, apartment and renters insurance.

Identity Theft protection is provided by *LifeLock* and covers expenses incurred to restore your identity. In addition, the program includes 24/7 monitoring of your identity, credit, bank and investment accounts.

Pet Insurance is provided by *Nationwide* and provides your pets with medical care, treatments, surgeries, and prescriptions. You may visit any licensed veterinarian or animal hospital.



Questions?

Columbia Benefits Service Center
Phone: 212-851-7000
Email: hrbenefits@columbia.edu

University Senate | Elections Commission
October 25, 2019 Plenary

October 7, 2019

Dear Senator,

The Elections Commission was established by Section 1(b) of the University Senate Elections Code (“Elections Code”) “to supervise the conduct of elections to the Senate and all other elective bodies whose power derives from the Senate.” Although the Elections Commission is rarely called into action, any candidate in any Senate election is entitled to submit a complaint to the Elections Commission if he or she believes any “substantial error in procedure” occurred in that election. When the Elections Commission receives such a complaint, Section 10 of the Elections Code requires us to provide notice and an opportunity to be heard to each candidate in the election and then to render a decision, reporting that decision and any recommendations to the Senate.

The Elections Commission received a complaint on September 10, 2019 about the election for Executive Committee Chair that occurred on September 6, 2019. We provided notice of the complaint to all interested parties and heard testimony from both candidates in the election. In addition, we received and took into consideration written testimony from senators who had participated in the election.

After lengthy deliberation, we have concluded that the conduct of the election at issue violated the By-Laws of the Columbia University Senate (“By-Laws”) to such a degree that we are compelled to declare the results of the election null and to require that a new special election for Executive Committee Chair take place. Specifically, the election at issue violated Section 3(h)(1) of the By-Laws, which states, “Following the election of the Executive Committee, the Chairperson of the Committee shall be nominated and elected from among the tenured faculty members by the Senate as a whole.” In the September 6, 2019 election, only senators from the Tenured Faculty Caucus were allowed to nominate and elect candidates for Executive Committee Chair, in clear violation of the By-Laws’ requirement that the Chair be both nominated and elected by the whole Senate. Although the procedure followed in the election at issue was consistent with years of practice, we are grateful to have the opportunity now to ensure that this election, as well as each future election for Executive Committee Chair, complies with the By-Laws.

We do not take lightly the decision to nullify the results of an election. However, the confluence of several circumstances compels us to take this extraordinary step. First, the Executive Committee Chair plays an important and public role in the business of the Senate, and we do not wish for the position’s occupant to remain mired in controversy for the duration of her term. Moreover, the procedural violation of the By-Laws was clear and unambiguous and had the effect of disenfranchising the majority of senators. Finally, we received the complaint promptly and with sufficient time to hold a special election with minimal disruption to Senate business.

The Elections Commission, working in conjunction with the Senate staff, will oversee a special election for Executive Committee Chair. We will send out detailed information about the special election soon. Until the Elections Commission has announced the result of the special election, Jeanine D’Armiento will remain Executive Committee Chair.

Sincerely,

Miranda Rehaut
Chair, Senate Elections Commission

Dana Neacsu
Member, Senate Elections Commission

Dan O'Flaherty
Member, Senate Elections Commission

Ann Thornton,
Member, Senate Elections Commission

Mary Zulack
Member, Senate Elections Commission

October 18, 2019

General Rules for the Special Election

Pursuant to section 17 of the Election Code, the Elections Commission has established the following rules for the special election in November 2019 of the chair of the Executive Committee:

1. Eligible voters. A person is eligible to vote if and only if they are elected or appointed as a Senator as of October 24, 2019.
2. Eligible candidates. A person is eligible to be a candidate for chair of the Executive Committee if they hold a tenured faculty seat on the Executive Committee. The following, in alphabetical order, are the persons eligible to be candidates:
 - a. James H. Applegate, Professor of Astronomy, Arts and Sciences
 - b. Jeanine D'Armiento, Professor of Medicine in Anesthesiology, Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons
 - c. Andreas H. Hielscher, Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Radiology (Physics), and Electrical Engineering, School of Engineering and Applied Science
 - d. Mignon R. Moore, Professor of Sociology, Barnard College
 - e. Letty Moss-Salentijn, Edward V. Zegarelli Professor of Dental Medicine (in Anatomy and Cell Biology), College of Dental Medicine
 - f. Sharyn O'Halloran, George Blumenthal Professor and Professor of International and Public Affairs, School of International and Public Affairs

Please note: These are the persons who are eligible to be candidates ("qualified persons"); they are not the candidates. In order to become a candidate, a qualified person must be nominated.

3. Nominations. Any qualified person may nominate herself or himself to be a candidate by emailing the Elections Commission at electionscommission@columbia.edu during the nominating period. Moreover, any senator may nominate any qualified person to be a candidate by emailing the same address during the nominating period. The Elections Commission will confirm each nominee's candidacy by email.
4. Nominating period. The nominating period is from 5 pm on October 25, 2019 until 5 pm on November 1, 2019.
5. Declinations and withdrawals. Any person nominated to be a candidate may decline or withdraw by email to the Elections Commission, at the same email address, before 11:59 pm on November 3, 2019.

6. Statements and photographs. Each candidate may submit a statement of no more than 200 words, or a photograph, or both as e-mail attachments to electionscommission@columbia.edu before 6 pm on November 1, 2019. Candidates are encouraged to submit statements and photographs, but are not required to do so.
7. Posting of candidate statements and photographs. Candidate statements and photographs will be made available to all Senators on or before 11:59 pm on November 7, 2019, by transmission to each Senator's CU e-mail, along with the ballot. A separate email will be sent containing a link to the voting site.
8. Ballot. The ballot will contain the names of the candidates in a column, and will permit voting for only one candidate. The ballot will also contain a designated way to vote to abstain. The names of the candidates will appear in an order determined by a randomization process.¹
9. Voting period. The Senate office will send a link to the voting site to every Senator on or about 5:02 pm on November 8, 2019, at which point the voting period starts. The voting period will remain open until 12 pm on November 18, 2019.
10. Notice of opportunity to vote. If senators do not see a link to the voting site in their inbox after November 8, 2019, they should check their spam folders and then email electionscommission@columbia.com to ensure they receive a timely ballot.
11. Privacy. The content of votes cast will be confidential. The Senate staff will know who has voted, but will be required to keep that information confidential.
12. Election results. The candidate who receives the greatest number of votes shall be elected chair, even if that number is not a majority. In the event of a tie, the winner shall be determined by a randomization process.²
13. Announcement of results. The Elections Commission shall notify the candidates and the Senate of the results by email on November 20, 2019.

¹ Randomization will use a random number generator like that available at <https://www.random.org/>. The first step will be to make the list of candidates in alphabetical order (following the order in section 2). Then numbers between 1 and 1000 will be drawn. The first number drawn will be assigned to the first candidate in alphabetical order; the second number drawn to the second candidate in alphabetical order; and so on, until a random number has been assigned to each candidate. The first ballot positions will be for the candidate whose assigned random number is lowest; the second to the candidate whose assigned random number is second lowest, and so on, until all candidates are assigned. "Abstain" will be the last option on the ballot. In the event that a drawing sequence results in the same number being assigned to two or more candidates, the entire sequence will be rejected and process of drawing and assigning will start over.

² A random number will be assigned to each candidate involved in the tie by the same process described in footnote 1 above. The candidate assigned the highest random number will be the winner.

October 18, 2019

Campaigning Rules for the Special Election

Pursuant to section 17 of the Elections Code, the Elections Commission has established the following rules for campaigning during the special election in November 2019 of the chair of the Executive Committee:

1. Campaign period. The campaign period will open on Friday, November 1 at 5:01 pm and close on Friday, November 8 at 5:01 pm. Candidates may engage in campaign activities only during this period.
2. Campaign activities. Campaign activities include all communications by candidates to senators with the express or implicit purpose of encouraging those senators to vote for a particular candidate for Executive Committee chair.
3. Campaign spending. Candidates are not expected to spend any money on campaign activities; but if they need to do so, they may not spend more than \$20 on campaign activities during the entire campaign period. Any money spent will not be refunded.
4. Electronic communications.
 - a. Electronic communications—including emails, text messages, and social media posts—must not be excessive, which is defined as three or more communications to any senator without a response during the campaign period. The Elections Commission, in its discretion, can make exceptions to this rule on request from a candidate.
 - b. Candidates are encouraged to reference the University policies on the use of email for additional guidance.
 - c. Nothing in these rules shall be construed to prevent the Acting Executive Committee Chair from making electronic communications necessary for Committee and Senate business.
5. Candidates are encouraged to contact the Elections Commission at electionscommission@columbia.edu to receive a determination on whether an activity constitutes campaigning. Candidates are urged to ask questions before the campaign period opens to give the Elections Commission a reasonable opportunity to respond. Candidates may not contact individual members of the Elections Commission with questions about these rules.
6. The Elections Commission may take disciplinary action, including disqualifying candidates, if it finds that any of these rules have been violated.