



ASUCD CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT #58

Authored by: GANZ

Coauthored by: Kaur, Hacker, Pearl, Mushi, Kaepelin, Leichter, Maraiyesa King, Perez, Pearl, Congjulco, Gogineni, Spasov, Htoo

Introduced by: Internal Affairs Commission

Recommended by: Internal Affairs Commission

Do pass as amended, 5-0-0, on
October 8, 2018. Yes:
Congjulco, Ganz, Gogineni,
King, Pearl.

A Constitutional Amendment to create the position of Student Advocate within ASUCD.

Section 1. The ASUCD Senate hereby places the following Constitutional Amendment on the Fall 2018 ballot:

ASUCD Student Advocate Amendment

Please vote for one of the following options:

_____ Yes, I approve of the ASUCD Student Advocate Amendment.

_____ No, I do not approve of the ASUCD Student Advocate Amendment.

An Act to amend the ASUCD Constitution by placing the following amendment before the vote of the ASUCD membership on the Fall 2018 ballot.

BACKGROUND: ASUCD needs to increase and broaden its involvement with the UC Davis student body. The Student Advocate would accomplish this goal. By fighting for students' rights in historically problematic areas such as financial aid, student housing and other grievances against the administration, the Student Advocate would be able to help protect students and give them the resources to protect themselves. The position of Student Advocate has proven to be extremely effective at other UC campuses such as UC San Diego and UC Berkeley. The Student Advocate may help to increase voter turnout in ASUCD elections because it would give students a more direct reason to become involved in ASUCD. This Constitutional Amendment does not lay out the full-organizational tree of the Student Advocate, nor does it explain the day-to-day details of the position. This is because the authors believe that these details should be laid out in the ASUCD Bylaws rather than in the ASUCD Constitution. If this Amendment were to pass, it would be the responsibility of the ASUCD Senate to craft the legislation that would further define the position of ASUCD Student Advocate.

Section 1. If ASUCD Constitutional Amendment #55, the "Constitutional Cleanup Amendment" meets the required threshold for its enactment, the ASUCD membership hereby enacts Article VII of the ASUCD Constitution as follows:

ARTICLE VII

ASUCD INDEPENDENT BODIES

- Section 1.
- (1) There shall exist an ASUCD Student Advocate (hereafter referred to as the Student Advocate) whose term shall last no longer than one (1) year, but may run for re-election at the end of their term.
 - (2) Any undergraduate member of ASUCD in good academic standing based on Grade Point Average (GPA), who has been a registered full-time or part-time student for at least two (2) entire academic quarters shall be eligible to hold the office of the Student Advocate.
 - (3) The Student Advocate shall have the following responsibilities:
 - (a) Providing aid at the request of any UC Davis student charged with University or campus violations, experiencing Financial Aid difficulties, disputing grades, and/or filing grievances against members of the campus community
 - (b) Representing ASUCD in discussions with University or campus administration regarding student rights, campus rules, and/or other areas of student conduct
 - (c) Educating the UC Davis student body on student rights, University and Campus policies, laws, regulations, and procedures
 - (4) The Student Advocate and candidates thereof shall remain non-partisan with regard to ASUCD at all times while executing the duties of, or running for the office of, Student Advocate.

Section 2. If ASUCD Constitutional Amendment #55, the "Constitutional Cleanup amendment" meets the required threshold for its enactment, the ASUCD membership hereby enacts Article V, Section 1§1(c) of the ASUCD Constitution as follows:

- Section 1.
- (1) There shall be two (2) ASUCD General Elections held during each academic calendar year, held during the seventh (7th) week of Fall Quarter and the seventh (7th) week of Winter Quarter respectively.
 - (a) Six (6) Senate seats shall be filled during each General Election using the electoral system of Single Transferable Voting, also known as Choice Voting.
 - (b) The office of President and Vice President shall be filled during the Winter Quarter General Election using the electoral process of Instant Runoff Voting.
 - (c) The office of Student Advocate shall be filled during the Winter Quarter General Election using the electoral process of Instant Runoff Voting.

Section 3. If ASUCD Constitutional Amendment #55, the "Constitutional Cleanup amendment" fails to meet the required threshold for its enactment, the ASUCD membership hereby enacts Article III, Section 7 of the ASUCD Constitution as follows.

- Section 7.
- (1) There shall exist an ASUCD Student Advocate (hereafter referred to as the Student Advocate) whose term shall last no longer than one (1) year, but may run for re-election at the end of their term.
 - (2) Any undergraduate member of ASUCD in good academic standing based on Grade Point Average (GPA), who has been a registered full-time or part-time student for at least two (2) entire academic quarters shall be eligible to hold the office of the Student Advocate.
 - (3) The Student Advocate shall have the following responsibilities:
 - (a) Offering aid at the request of any UC Davis students charged with University or campus violations, experiencing Financial Aid difficulties, disputing grades, and/or filing grievances against members of the campus community
 - (b) Representing ASUCD in discussions with University or campus administration regarding student rights, campus rules, and/or other areas of student conduct
 - (c) Educating the UC Davis student body regarding student rights, University and Campus policies, laws, regulations, and procedures
 - (4) The Student Advocate and candidates thereof shall remain non-partisan with regard to ASUCD at all times while executing the duties of, or running for the office of Student Advocate.
 - (5) The ASUCD Student Advocate shall be elected annually during a general election conducted during the seventh week (7th) of Winter Quarter. The Student Advocate election shall be conducted using an Instant Runoff Voting system. The method of voting and counting shall be described in the ASUCD Elections Regulations. To permit an independent count of the ballots, the rankings cast shall be made available to the public upon request. The eligible candidates for the ASUCD Student Advocate receiving a simple majority of the votes cast for their offices in any round of the instant runoff shall be issued a Certificates of Election from the outgoing Vice President at the beginning of the final Senate meeting of Winter Quarter. Upon receipt of the Certificates of Election, the newly-elected ASUCD Student Advocate shall immediately assume office.

The ASUCD Student Advocate, before obtaining a Certificate of Election, shall recite the ASUCD Oath of Office which will be administered by the outgoing President:

"I, _____, student of the University of California, Davis, in good academic standing, promise to abide by the ASUCD Guidelines of Ethics; and promote the welfare and interests of the members of ASUCD; and in consistency with the ASUCD Constitution, enact rules and procedures necessary and proper for the efficient operation of ASUCD; and carry out and faithfully execute the duties enumerated in the ASUCD Constitution and ASUCD Bylaws at all times during my term in office."

Finance: No

Appropriation: None

Vote: 2/3

DO PASS AS AMENDED, 12-0-0, BY A ROLL CALL OF THE SENATE ON October 11, 2018. YES: ALONI, CLEMONS, HACK, HACKER, HTOO, KAUR, KULLAR, LEICHTER, MARAIYESA, MARTINEZ, PEREZ, SPASOV.

Michael Gofman
ASUCD President

Date