MCC Bylaws Section III: Interest Group Leadership and Elections

Authored by David Gorlin and Isaac Smith. Edited and voted on by the 2023 MCC E-board: Eric Panther, Dominique Szymkiewicz, Logan Wright, Annnika Liu. Approved by Dr. Joseph Fantone.

During the Spring Semester, all COM students will have the opportunity to participate in the MCC general elections. This process involves submission of an electronic ballot, and determines the incoming leadership for Interest Groups. These elections only account for the positions of President and Treasurer. Certain details of the election process may vary from year to year, however the requirement for a public forum (generally through electronic documentation on the internet) must be preserved along with the following parameters:

Leadership Positions and Eligibility

Each organization will have positions of President and Treasurer occupied at all times. Each position may be split by two individuals simultaneously. IGs with four or fewer candidates running, candidates may assemble and agree to assignment of the four available positions. IGs with only two candidates running for all positions will have the President and Treasurer slots filled (eg, both candidates running for President). These scenarios will be resolved with discussion between the MCC and candidates. Internal positions, such as vice presidents, secretaries, and social media chairs, are vital roles for IGs and will be organized internally by leadership teams once the general elections conclude.

An individual cannot hold more than 2 elected MCC IG positions and no more than 1 position per IG. During the election process, a student can be nominated to up to 5 positions. Candidates on the verge of winning more >2 elections will be contacted to determine which two they choose. PA students included, graduate students, and all MS classes are included in eligibility.

Nominations and Election Schedule

The nomination process starts when MCC elections are announced, usually early Spring semester, and the online nomination form is made available. There, interested students can select positions of interest and provide a short message summarizing your candidacy. A document will be publicly available for students to review the candidates.

Voting

For IGs with greater than 4 nominations, all candidates will run independently and be elected by a majority *by* their peers.

Submission of more than one ballot by a student will nullify all ballots submitted by that student. Votes will be counted electronically by the utilized web based application.

Results & Adjudication

Results of the election will be made public once available to the election officer (MCC internal vice president). Delays may occur in the event of concerns or ongoing adjudication with significant impact to the overall results.

Any concerns about compliance within the election or sustainability of an interest group may be adjudicated by the election officer (MCC internal vice president).

Transition

Once notified of the election results, new IG leaders should contact outgoing leadership and faculty advisor(s). The new leadership should then contact the MCC website administrator to update their MCC webpage. Updating the webpage is a prerequisite to requesting funds or scheduling events.

The MCC e-board will schedule a general body meeting for new IG leaders to provide education on policies and procedures for operating an IG.

Internal Elections

Internal elections are considered acceptable by default for cultural, ethnic, or religious interest groups. Generally, an organization is informed upon approval by the MCC e-board if they are eligible to hold an internal election process. Otherwise, IGs will participate in the general elections.

IGs interested in converting to internal elections are able to do so with approval by the MCC. Approval will be granted if the IG can identify how the general election process is detrimental to the group and how internal elections would fix this. Should other remedies present potential solutions, the MCC will suggest those be considered first before closing elections off.