



COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **Interim Elections Policy**

### **Policy Number [X-XX]**

Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania

Approved by University Senate, [Date of Approval] Revised [Date of Revision]

Responsible Office: [Insert Division or Office]

#### **1. Purpose**

To clarify Article V, Section E of the Commonwealth University Senate Constitution regarding elections policy and procedure in the event of results that do not capture a majority of the vote.

#### **2. Scope**

Maintainance of a fair and transparent process for resolving deadlocks in voting for Senate seats that minimizes undue burden on the voting electorate without compromising integrity or effectiveness of the voting process.

#### **3. Roles and Responsibilities**

In accordance with the Commonwealth University Senate Constitution, these actions will fall under the purview of the Elections Subcommittee.

#### **4. Policy**

The following procedures will take effect whenever an election results in a tied or undecided vote.

#### **5. Procedures, Standards, and Guidelines**

1. In any election, the candidate receiving the greatest number of votes must win at least 50% of the votes cast in the election to win the position; failing this, the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall participate in a run-off election.



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- i. A runoff election may involve more than two candidates if
  - a. More than two nominees are tied for the most votes in a race, or
  - b. The leading nominee has less than 50% of the vote while two or more nominees are tied for the second most votes.
- ii. A runoff election involving more than two candidates will be decided by ranked voting.

2. In the event of a deadlock after the runoff election, candidates will be given the opportunity to decide amongst themselves who will assume the position. If there is no consensus, the Elections Subcommittee will use a method of random selection to determine the winner.

## 5 Compliance and Enforcement

- 5.1 Every University policy will undergo a regular review on a five-year cycle, with approximately 20% of the total policies inventory being reviewed each year.
- 5.2 All policy reviews will be conducted by the responsible Senate Committee to assure that the policy remains relevant and aligns with applicable federal and state laws and regulations, PASSHE Board of Governors policies, and other University policies, procedures, standards, or guidelines.

## 7. Additional Information

### 5.3 History

- 5.3.1 New Interim Policy
- 5.3.2 Effective Date – [Date Approved by the University Senate or Issued by the Office of the President as an Interim Policy]
- 5.3.3 Revised - [Date of Revision]
- 5.3.4 Next Review Date - [Date of Revision]

### 5.4 Related Policies - None

### 5.5 Contacts for Additional Information and Reporting

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