

November Report of the AMS Governance Committee

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Hello Council!

It has been a busy month for the Governance Committee (“GovCom”). We are now meeting weekly and have had no shortage of topics to discuss. As AMS Student Council (“Council”) will not be meeting again until January, this will be my final report of 2018; however GovCom will have met once more after this report is submitted and will likely meet once more time this semester. This report outlines the work that GovCom has completed since my previous report of October 19, 2018 as well as things that are currently on our docket.

1 Completed Work

1.1 Elections and Code Changes

On October 24, 2018, Council approved the proposed Code changes concerning elections. I once again thank everyone involved in this process. There was some confusion regarding the reporting requirements in the new changes and what GovCom intended to occur. While it was certainly informative to learn about the elections in the School of Music, it is not the best use of the EA’s time. In the future, the requirement to report to Council constituency election results will be in the form of a written submission unless there is are special circumstance that Council should be aware of.

1.2 Policy I-9

On October 24, 2018, Council approved the changes to Policy I-9, the Policy on Policies. I encourage everyone to consult with I-9 anytime they are writing or amending any policies.

1.3 Disciplinary Motions Code Additions

In response to the confusion regarding disciplinary motions that arose at the October 24, 2018 meeting GovCom drafted Code changes to set out rules and requirements for disciplinary motions. I would like to thank everyone for the excellent debate on the proposed Code changes. While the process took some time, I believe that the motion we eventually adopted will help future Councils in the unfortunate event of another disciplinary motion.

2 Ongoing and Upcoming Work

2.1 Recommendations Arising from Council Discussions

Our past two meetings have been focused on providing Council with recommendations on ways to improve engagement at Council. Our recommendations can be found as a separate report on the Agenda. This work is considered ongoing because we will need to draft Code changes based on feedback from Council.

2.2 By-Laws and Code Review

GovCom is continuing to review By-Laws and Code to try and simplify, clarify, and improve. Our discussions on By-Laws is still in progress and will hopefully be completed early next semester so that a referendum on the changes can be organized. The scope of the Code review may be reduced if there is insufficient time to complete it, which is possible depending on whether any other items are referred to the committee.

2.3 Policy I-9

No action has been taken on this item since the previous report.

2.4 Audit Committee

On October 24, 2018, Council asked GovCom to “explore the creation of procedures providing the review of the Societys annual financial statements and auditors report prior to the submission to the membership.” No action has been taken on this item at this time.

We have changed our meeting time since the previous report. GovCom now meets at 11:00 every week, although this will likely change in the new year. The Governance Committee is always happy (and compelled) to address any issues that Council sees fit. As always, if there is anything in Code you would like to see changed please reach out.