A resolution regarding the implementation of the bid process for the selection of the HCSA Executive Board

Whereas: It has been suggested that the current appointment process can lead to bias; and,

Whereas: The bid process would allow HCSA General Council a greater say in their leadership for the next year.

LET IT THEREFORE BE RESOLVED THAT:

Section 1: Article VI Section V of the By-laws be amended to:

   All members of the Executive Board that are not filled by election are selected via the bidding process.

   If there are more than five candidates, including those who intend to bid down for each position, for a particular position, the current Executive Board and RSA Presidents will make paper cuts, to ensure that the bid process is completed in a timely fashion. There must be substantive reasoning behind each paper cut, such as a lack of preparation, to complete the responsibilities of the position for which the candidate is bidding. If, after the completion of these paper cuts, more than five candidates remain, the outgoing Executive Board and RSA Presidents will rank their top five choices, with five denoting their first choice candidate, four designating their second choice, and proceeding downward. The five candidates with the highest scores will proceed with the bid process outlined below, with the exception of the National Residence Hall Honorary President, who shall be elected in accordance with the National Residence Hall Honorary Constitution.

   Each candidate shall submit a letter of intent, at least one week prior to the start of the bidding process, including a cover letter and resume, indicating their Monday availability, and specifying the position or positions for which they plan to bid.
In the event that the HCSA Advisors feel that a candidate was paper cut due to unfair bias, a two-thirds majority decision by the advisors may overturn the cut. A unanimous vote by the Executive Board can overrule this decision.

In the event that a candidate who was cut from the selection process believes that the decision was unfair, they may present their application materials to General Council, and ask General Council to overrule the Executive Board’s cut. General Council may overrule the cut with a two-thirds majority vote. In the event multiple candidates challenge a decision, all candidates and the HCSA President with present before a vote is called. If General Council chooses to overrule the decision, all candidates will proceed with the bid process.

No later than five business days prior to the start of the bidding process, all academically-eligible candidates will receive further information from the advisors regarding bid process protocol, including the bid template, a review of the presentation process and position descriptions. Academic eligibility is defined as having a cumulative and semester GPA of 2.5, which will be verified by the advisors.

Candidates will prepare a presentation, the duration of which shall not exceed seven minutes. The Election Chair shall create a simple presentation template for this purpose.

Each candidate shall give their presentation in front of the General Council during a regularly scheduled General Council meeting. Bid presentations shall begin no later than six weeks prior to the beginning of OU’s finals week as indicated by the OU Academic Calendar.

Members of the General Council will be provided a period of time no shorter than three minutes to engage in a question and answer session with each candidate.

After all candidates have presented their bids, members of General Council will be provided a period of time no shorter than 10 minutes to engage in discussion regarding candidates. Upon conclusion of discussion, a vote will be called by secret ballot, wherein General Council members may vote for a single candidate, or vote no confidence. Both General Council members, who have attended a minimum of one General Council meetings prior to the start of the election proceedings, and all Executive Board members, with the
exception of the Outreach and Development Director and the current General Council Chair, will have voting privileges. If the voting eligibility of a member is not supported by attendance documents, the vice president may provide confirmation that the attendance requirement is met.

If a single candidate receives a simple majority, that candidate shall be the position-elect.

If no candidate receives a simple majority, a runoff vote will be held between the two candidates receiving the highest pluralities of votes cast.

If votes of no confidence compose the majority, nominations for president will be accepted from the General Council floor. Presentation formats for these nominated candidates will be modified in order to accommodate the nature of their selection.

Candidates not selected for their preferred position may bid for another position. Position bidding shall occur in the following order: Vice President, National Communications Coordinator, Programming Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Outreach and Development Director. If they choose to do so, they must indicate which positions they will bid down for on their letter of intent.

In the event that a position is unable to be filled through the bidding process, that position will be filled via an application and selection process as outlined in Section VI.

Section 2: Article V Section VI is modified to read:

In the event that a position or multiple positions remain unfilled following the bid process, open positions will be filled following this structure:

Applications are made live as soon as possible following the completion of the bid process. This application will be created and distributed by the HCSA President elect.

Applicants will be asked to rank the positions they are interested in within their application.

The RSA Presidents elect and HCSA President elect will conduct interviews with candidates utilizing a position specific pre-determined selection rubric.
A meeting will be held prior to interviews where the outgoing Executive Board explains the duties and responsibilities of their position and provides any guidance they deem necessary for the selection.

Afterwards, the positions will be selected by a simple majority vote of the RSA Presidents elect and HCSA President elect.

If there is not a simple majority, the applicants will be discussed again and the lowest vote getter eliminated. Once a simple majority is reached for each position the applicant will be selected to join the Executive Board.

Section 3: Article V Section VII be modified to read:

The right of the student voter to a secret ballot must not be abridged.

No person(s), group(s), or organization(s), whether recognized or unrecognized by the SGA or HCSA, regardless of their affiliation, can require any student(s) to vote or require any student(s) to vote either for or against any proposal, candidate, or candidates in any HCSA sanctioned election.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution shall be sent to the following:

David Annis, Director of Housing and Food Services
Diane Brittingham, Director of Residence Life
Brian Rock, Assistant Director of Residence Life and HCSA Adviser
Samantha Raines, HCSA Graduate Adviser
Lindsey Smith, HCSA Graduate Adviser
Elissa Ungerman, HCSA President

Authors of The Bill: Santiago Mazuera

Action taken by Council:  **PASSED 12-5-1**

Verified by Chair of Council:  ___________________________ Date:  **03.01.2016**