

Proposed Amendment to AIC Constitution

09/17/2022

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Highlights

- Goal of the Amendments:
 - Expand size of EC from 6 to 10
 - Increase term of each member from 1 to 2 years
 - Establish a rotating term, somewhat like US Senate: Every year, one-half of the EC will be up for election
 - Abolish direct election of President
 - Establish a Sisters advisory committee
- Impacted Articles and Sections
 - Article IV, Section 2.1 Term and Election
 - Article IV, Section 2.3 Composition of the Executive Committee
 - Article IV, Section 2.4 Vacancy
 - Article IV, New Section 4: Sisters Advisory Committee

Rotating Term - One-half will be up for election every year

- 10 membership positions will be divided into Class 1, Class 2
- Each member (regardless of position), will fill a fixed Membership position; hence EC will have 10 position – Member 1, Member 2 ... up to Member 10
- Class 1 positions will be filled in odd years: 2023, 2025 and so on. Class 1 will refer to Member 1, 3, 5, 7, 9
- Class 2 positions will be filled in even years: 2024, 2026 and so on. Class 2 will refer to Member 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

Please see Appendix, Slide # 11 on special arrangements for 2023

EC Portfolio Changes

- The constitution will define following positions
 - President, General Secretary, Treasurer
- EC distributes responsibility based on tasks

Benefit

- As roles and tasks evolve, members take responsibility on a task basis: For example, 15 years ago, we could not contemplate IT, Social Media and Communication will be such an important role
- Many other tasks have evolved as we try to provide better service:
 - Outside appearance and maintenance, AC/Plumbing/Electrical
 - Building maintenance and contingency
 - Parking and civic liaison
 - Marriage and Burial
 - Co-ordinate with Weekend Islamic School (currently Vice-President's role includes Islamic School, which is not in practice)
 - EC will work towards a detail list so we appreciate the task-based roles rather than a fixed portfolio

Sisters advisory committee

Background

- Today sisters organize around different causes
 - Fundraising
 - discussion groups
 - community support (sickness, bereavement/death)
 - support new sisters who embrace Islam
 - host non-muslim visitors
- Lack of formal structure
- Amendment to constitution to form a sisters advisory committee

Proposal for Sisters Advisory Committee

- Sisters committee will have 6 members (even number of members)
- Members of the committee is elected for 2 years
- Each year, half of the committee will be up for election
- Qualifications: Any general member of AIC can be nominated for sisters committee except the following:
 - Spouse of any board member shall not be eligible to serve in the committee
 - Spouse of EC president shall not be eligible to serve in the committee

Note: Election may not take place on the same day as the Election for EC and Board members to make sure the above requirement is followed

Election of Sisters Advisory Committee

- Within 2 weeks of the election of EC, the EC General Secretary will seek and finalize nominations for the open positions of the advisory committee
- EC General Secretary will consult with the existing members of the advisory committee (who are not among the list of candidates) to facilitate the following:
 - Publish the list of candidates and a date for Election
 - Request two sisters to perform the duty of Election Committee
 - Provide voter list to the Election committee
- The two-member election committee will complete the Election, no later than 45 days of the Election of EC and Board members and publish the result of the Election
- Sisters advisory committee will meet within 7 days of the election

Abolish direct election of the EC President

Challenges in current system:

- Today, if number of nominees is more than six (the number of positions), two rounds of election takes place
 - Round 1 is to Elect the EC
 - Round 2 is to Elect the President
- If the President wants to continue to serve in the EC, but not as President, the President has to effectively 'Campaign against himself' so he does not get the highest vote

Proposal:

- EC elects president by consensus
- EC makes best practices: For an example, a President may encourage others to lead
- This will encourage seniors to serve in the committee
- Eliminate tie-breaking power of the President in any decision

Vacancy

- If an EC position becomes vacant, it will be filled in the next election to complete the remaining term of that position.

Appendix: One-time arrangement for ending the term of half of EC in 2023; This is not part of the amendment

- In mid-November, 2022 first 10-member EC will start its tenure
- Sometime in Sprint 2023, a lottery will assign each EC member to a Member position. For example, Person X is Member 1, Person Y is Member 2 etc.
- Class 1 members term will be expire on 2023. Any graduating student or someone leaving Auburn may opt to be considered for Class 1 membership (e.g. Member 1, Member 3 etc.)
- At the AGM of 2023, Class 1 membership positions will be filled by election
- At the AGM of 2024, Class 2 membership positions will be filled by election
- And so on