

The Judicial Council of MCSG met on Sunday, February 9 to review the MCSG Constitution and Bylaws as they pertain to membership requirements and eligibility for office. The Judicial Council found that although most procedures for the conduct of elections and general expectations for sitting representatives are outlined well, there are key sections in need of revision. The recommended changes, as well as points for consideration, are outlined below.

Constitution Review

Article XII

Section 1

1a. We find that the phrase “and other official documents” is unclear: we recommend it be changed to “this Constitution and the MCSG Bylaws” for the sake of clarity -- other pertinent documents should be named as well.

1b. No issues found.

1c, 1d. We see a need for clarifying language: it is unclear if a recall can be initiated only due to disciplinary violations, or to other infractions of the Student Rights and Responsibilities document.

Article XIII

We find that this article itself is clear in its intent and wording, but we do recommend clarifying Article IX, Section 2 of MCSG bylaws to more clearly outline duties of campus committee representatives, including attendance at meetings/participation in projects.

Article XIV

We noticed immediately that the title of the article does not match its content. Clarify the title to “Dissolution of the MCSG” or something similar. We recommend adding an article or section specifically focused on academic and disciplinary removal of MCSG members according to college policy documents. We agree that it is best in the Constitution and Bylaws to separate automatic removal policy from student-initiated recall.

Review of Bylaws

Article IX

Section 2:3

We recommend adding specific guidelines on removal/responsibilities of campus committee members.

Article XIII

Section 2

1.a The Judicial Council finds that this section of the MCSG bylaws conflicts with the course of action taken by MCSG in the filling of vacant class representative seats. We recommend that the LB immediately determine whether to enforce the outlined system or revise the section.

Section 9

Correct the current Roman numeral in the heading to a number, to avoid confusion.

General Notes

The questions of leadership eligibility within MCSG have effects outside of the LB and Executive Council. MCSG should consider if making membership requirements more or less permissive than those concerning other student orgs will send a message of superiority.

The Judicial Council recommends that the Executive Council, along with MCSG staff, collect all bylaw changes and constitutional amendments passed in the past 2 1/2 years and ensure that they have been written into the codes before the end of this semester.

We agree that defining an intra-MSCG set of criteria for removal may be useful in clarifying some of the confusion within the bylaws, and encourage conversation on this. Also, we feel it necessary to have people who are challenged in this way to request a report on why.

We found it to be unclear whether people currently on probationary status can seek office while still on probation, and recommend making the answer prominent in the EPC regulations. We found the references between documents to be a bit much.

We agree that MCSG should look into a Statement of Expectations that all members can see and sign at beginning of the year/written into bylaws. We also support adding into it a brief statement defining personal responsibility that does not refer to other docs.