

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY
FORTY-SIXTH SENATE
EIGHTH SESSION
10/5/16**

**BILL #4603
THE VICE-PRESIDENCY**

SPONSORED BY: Peter James Seel, 15'-16' Speaker Pro Tempore; Phoenix Dugger, 15'-16' Vice-President, Internal Committee

WRITTEN BY: Edward Kendall, 16'-17' Speaker Pro Tempore;

COLLABORATED WITH: Josh Williams, Officer of Governmental Affairs

ENDORSED BY: Mike Lensky, 16'-17' Vice-President; Lance C. Li Puma, 14'-15' Vice President; Connor Cheadle, Senator College of Engineering; External Committee; Duane Hansen, Senator, ALVS

ABSTRACT: A bill to partition the two major duties, student fees and student senate, of the current Vice-President role between two publicly elected officials to be known as the Vice President and Speaker of the Senate.

WHEREAS

Article II, Section 206 of the Associated Students of Colorado State University (ASCSU) states,
“Section 206: The Senate shall be presided over by the Speaker who shall be the duly elected ASCSU Vice President...”

and,

WHEREAS

Article VIII, Section 809 of the ASCSU constitution states,
“Section 809: The ASCSU Vice President shall chair the Student Fee Review Board...”

And,

WHEREAS

It is evident that when the ASCSU Constitution was drafted, that it was the intent of the writers that the Vice-President serve these two primary roles in their dual capacity; and,

WHEREAS

The ASCSU Constitution is designed to be applicable to all times for all students and to be a living document, as in, when the students it serves change, so too does the Constitution; and,

WHEREAS

Since the time the current role of Vice-President was envisioned, many of the roles and expectations of the Vice-President have changed; and,

WHEREAS

There are at least nineteen fee areas currently presenting to the Student Fee Review Board (“The Board”), each proposing their own separate budget, combined totaling more than \$55-million in student fees; and,

WHEREAS

The Vice-President begins planning for the business of the Board at the beginning of summer, holds countless meetings with each fee area directors, may visit student advisory boards for the various fee areas, advertises to, interviews, selects, and helps ratify the members of the Board, in addition to running weekly meetings Monday evenings that can extend for hours on top of any other time needed to prepare for each of these meetings; and,

WHEREAS

It is self-evident due to the serious nature of student fees that member overseeing the execution of the entire student fee process should dedicate a significant amount of their time and effort to its proper execution as any less would be negligent of the intent and spirit of student fees; and,

WHEREAS

It is also evident that since the conception of the current role of the Vice-President, student fees and their associated burden on the Vice-President have increased, and will not in the foreseeable future cease to be an ever growing weight on their role; and,

WHEREAS

Additionally, the Vice-President is expected to run the ASCSU Senate; and,

WHEREAS

The directive to “run” The ASCSU Senate is deceptively little verbiage for the amount of work needed to actually “run” the Senate, and especially to do so well; and,

WHEREAS

An example of the day to day business of “running” the Senate involves meeting with, delegating to, conducting meetings among, and managing a seven-member Legislative Cabinet, while maintaining the ASCSU office-complex, ensuring the social, mental, physical and educational well-being of upwards of an additional twenty individual Senate members outside of the Legislative Cabinet; and,

WHEREAS

On top of this the Vice-President is expected to be an expert in Robert’s Rules of Order, a seasoned Chairperson, diplomat to students, administrators, faculty, pro-staff, press and community organizations, expert conflict resolution and mediation facilitator, while additionally leading Senate meetings on Wednesday nights that can, during busy times of the year, often coinciding with finals, extend to midnight or later, and even outside of this one day is expected to attend to any other business remotely related to Senate or the activities of its members; and,

WHEREAS

The Speaker Pro Tempore and other Legislative staff are left to compensate for the additional workload on the Vice-President and in some cases end up spending more than six hours outside of their job description; and,

WHEREAS

We as compassionate campus leaders, believe in the inherent mission of this institution, which is to be a place for one’s self-pursuit of betterment and the discovery of their inherent worth; and,

WHEREAS

When the environments we are putting student leaders into, become subversive to these aims, it is our duty as the guardians of our fellow students, to correct these conditions which are abhorrent to our values and vision; and,

WHEREAS

There are many reasons we should not change the current role of the Vice-President, philosophical, political, ideological, or even out of an all to familiar comfort with the old, to not recognize the *sheer amount* of work we are placing on student leaders and the *high expectations*

for success we have lost sight of our mission and placed real people into real situations that obstruct their aims as students and devalues their inherent worth as peers; and,

WHEREAS

We the Forty-Sixth ASCSU Senate, as compassionate leaders on campus, have it within our power and compulsion to set right what we see as wrong when our fellows, and all those seeking self-betterment cannot for themselves.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ENACTED

That the 46th Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University hereby Amend the following sections as follows,

That Article II, Section 206, which currently reads,

“Section 206: The Senate shall be presided over by the Speaker who shall be the duly elected ASCSU Vice President. The newly elected Senate during their first official meeting shall select a Speaker Pro Tempore, Parliamentarian, and Senate Recruitment and Retention Officer and all four officers shall be inaugurated at this session. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall preside over the Senate in the absence of the Speaker. In the absence of both the Speaker and the Speaker Pro Tempore, the Parliamentarian shall preside over the Senate.”

Be amended to,

“Section 206: The Senate shall be presided over by the Speaker who shall be the duly elected and ratified ASCSU **Speaker of the Senate**. The newly elected Senate during their first official meeting shall select a Speaker Pro Tempore, Parliamentarian, and Senate Recruitment and Retention Officer and all four officers shall be inaugurated at this session. The Speaker Pro Tempore shall preside over the Senate in the absence of the Speaker. In the absence of both the Speaker and the Speaker Pro Tempore, the Parliamentarian shall preside over the Senate.”

That Article III, Section 301, which currently reads,

“Section 301: The President and Vice President shall be sworn in during the last session of the Senate, which precedes the term of office they are to serve. Actual term of office shall begin the first business day in June, running through the last business day of May.”

Be amended to,

“Section 301: The President, Vice President, and Speaker of the Senate shall be sworn in during the last session of the Senate, which precedes the term of office they are to serve.

Actual term of office shall begin the first business day in June, running through the last business day of May.”

That Article III, Section 303, which currently reads,

“Section 303: In the case of the President’s inability to continue in office or temporary absences, the Vice President shall serve as President. The Vice President, acting as President, shall appoint a new Vice President who shall be ratified by the Senate. If both the President and the Vice President cannot fulfill their term, the Speaker Pro Tempore shall become President and shall appoint a new Vice President to be ratified by the Senate. If the President and Vice President cannot serve and there is no Speaker Pro Tempore, the Director of Finance shall become President and they shall appoint a Vice President to be ratified by the Senate. If the Vice President cannot serve, the President shall appoint a new Vice President to be ratified by Senate. An individual shall have the sole power to determine inability to serve, except in the case of negligence. In the event of temporary absences extending beyond five working days, the President or Vice President shall notify both the Director of Finance and the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Senate prior to departure and subsequent to return. Salary shall not be accrued during such absences. This does not apply to University vacation periods, illness, emergency, or absence due to normal carrying out of Executive duties.”

Be amended to,

“Section 303: In the case of the President’s inability to continue in office or temporary absences, the Vice President shall serve as President. The Vice President, acting as President, shall appoint a new Vice President who shall be ratified by the Senate. If both the President and the Vice President cannot fulfill their term, the Speaker of the Senate shall become President and shall appoint a new Vice President to be ratified by the Senate, and the Speaker Pro Tempore shall become the Speaker of the Senate. If the President and Vice President cannot serve and there is no Speaker of the Senate, the Director of Finance shall become President and they shall appoint a Vice President to be ratified by the Senate. If the Vice President cannot serve, the President shall appoint a new Vice President to be ratified by Senate. An individual shall have the sole power to determine inability to serve, except in the case of negligence. In the event of temporary absences extending beyond five working days, the President or Vice President shall notify both the Director of Finance and the Speaker of the Senate prior to departure and subsequent to return. Salary shall not be accrued during such absences. This does not apply to University vacation periods, illness, emergency, or absence due to normal carrying out of Executive duties.”

That Article III, Section 304, which currently reads,

“Section 304: The Vice President shall deal primarily with University and intercollegiate affairs and shall assist the President in carrying out the duties of the Executive. The Vice President shall be responsible for maintaining the ASCSU office complex and coordinating ASCSU services. The Vice President shall sit as the Speaker of the Senate. The Vice President shall report to and be supervised by the President.”

Be amended to,

“Section 304: The Vice President shall chair the Student Fee Review Board. The Vice President shall be responsible for maintaining the ASCSU office complex and coordinating ASCSU services. The Vice President shall report to and be supervised by the President.”

That Article IV, Section 408, which currently reads,

“Section 408: All members of the Senate, the President, the Vice President, the Directors of the Executive, and all members of the judiciary shall, before entering their respective offices, take and subscribe to the following affirmation as administered by a Justice of the Supreme Court or the Speaker of the Senate: "I, state your name, do solemnly swear to defend and uphold the rules and regulations set forth by the Constitution of the Associated Students of Colorado State University and will rightfully perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability."

Be amended to,

“Section 408: All members of the Senate, the President, the Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, the Directors of the Executive, and all members of the judiciary shall, before entering their respective offices, take and subscribe to the following affirmation as administered by a Justice of the Supreme Court or the Speaker of the Senate: "I, state your name, do solemnly swear to defend and uphold the rules and regulations set forth by the Constitution of the Associated Students of Colorado State University and will rightfully perform the duties of my office to the best of my ability."

That Article VI, Section 600, which currently reads,

“Section 600: In the event that there are grounds for impeachment of any ASCSU Official, a petition containing the signatures of not less than 1% of all members of ASCSU, 10% of all Officials of ASCSU, 20% of all Senators, or by the President plus 10% of Senators shall be presented to the Speaker of the Senate. If the impeachment is against the Vice President, the petition is to be presented to the Speaker Pro Tempore or

the Parliamentarian. Additionally, impeachment of Senators may also be initiated by a recommendation of the College Council; impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Supreme Court by recommendation of the Chief Justice; impeachment may also be initiated against the Chief Justice by a petition containing the signatures of at least three (3) Justices; impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Board for Student Organization Funding by a petition containing the signatures of the Director of Finance and any two (2) Senators; or impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Student Fee Review Board by a petition containing the signatures of the President and 10% of the Senators, or of 1% of all members of ASCSU. Upon fulfillment of any one of the above conditions, impeachment proceedings shall begin within one week as outlined in the ASCSU Impeachment Procedures. Section 601: Grounds for impeachment include negligence in the form of not fulfilling duties specified in the Official's job description or in this Constitution, or by violation of aspects of any ASCSU ethics code currently in effect. Ethics violations require a previously filed and acted upon Speaker of the Senate complaint to be considered valid grounds for impeachment."

Be amended to,

"Section 600: In the event that there are grounds for impeachment of any ASCSU Official, a petition containing the signatures of not less than 1% of all members of ASCSU, 10% of all Officials of ASCSU, 20% of all Senators, or by the President plus 10% of Senators shall be presented to the Speaker of the Senate. If the impeachment is against the **Speaker of the Senate** or Vice President, the petition is to be presented to the Speaker Pro Tempore or the Parliamentarian. Additionally, impeachment of Senators may also be initiated by a recommendation of the College Council; impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Supreme Court by recommendation of the Chief Justice; impeachment may also be initiated against the Chief Justice by a petition containing the signatures of at least three (3) Justices; impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Board for Student Organization Funding by a petition containing the signatures of the Director of Finance and any two (2) Senators; or impeachment may also be initiated against any member of the Student Fee Review Board by a petition containing the signatures of the President and 10% of the Senators, or of 1% of all members of ASCSU. Upon fulfillment of any one of the above conditions, impeachment proceedings shall begin within one week as outlined in the ASCSU Impeachment Procedures. Section 601: Grounds for impeachment include negligence in the form of not fulfilling duties specified in the Official's job description or in this Constitution, or by violation of aspects of any ASCSU ethics code currently in effect. Ethics violations require a previously filed and acted upon Speaker of the Senate complaint to be considered valid grounds for impeachment.

That Article VII, Section 700, which currently reads as,

“Section 700: ASCSU shall conduct the general election of its President, Vice President, and Senators during the first three days of the third week after Spring Break. All elections shall be administered by the Executive Branch of ASCSU.”

Be amended to,

“Section 700: ASCSU shall conduct the general election of its President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, and Senators during the first three days of the third week after Spring Break. All elections shall be administered by the Executive Branch of ASCSU.”

That Article VII, Section 701, which currently reads as,

“Section 701: The President and Vice President shall be elected on a single ticket. The President, Vice President, and all members of the Executive Cabinet shall serve their term of office in accordance with Section 301 of this Constitution.”

Be amended to,

“Section 701: The President, **and** Vice President shall be elected on a single ticket. The Speaker of the Senate shall run their own separate ticket. The President, Vice President, Speaker of the Senate, and all members of the Executive Cabinet shall serve their term of office in accordance with Section 301 of this Constitution.”

That Article VII, Section 703, which currently reads as,

“Section 703: All candidates for the office of President or Vice President shall be members of ASCSU, with a minimum Colorado State University cumulative grade point average of 2.25. All candidates for the office of Senator shall be members of ASCSU, with a minimum Colorado State University cumulative grade point average of 2.00. Any student without a Colorado State University grade point average, such as a new student or a recent transfer student, need not meet the grade point average threshold. Every elected or appointed member of ASCSU must remain as a full-time student in good academic standing through the spring and fall semesters of his or her term of appointment.”

Be amended to,

“Section 703: All candidates for the office of President, Vice President, and Speaker of the Senate shall be members of ASCSU, with a minimum Colorado State University cumulative grade point average of 2.25. All candidates for the office of Senator shall be members of ASCSU, with a minimum Colorado State University cumulative grade point average of 2.00. Any student without a Colorado State University grade point average, such as a new student or a recent transfer student, need not meet the grade point average threshold. Every elected or appointed member of ASCSU must remain as a full-time

student in good academic standing through the spring and fall semesters of his or her term of appointment.”

That Article VII, Section 706, which currently reads as,

“Section 706: If the newly elected President and Vice President both resign from their positions prior to being sworn into office, the ticket with the next highest number of votes shall assume the positions of President and Vice President. In the event that one member of the newly elected ticket resigns prior to being sworn in, succession shall be determined by Section 303 of this Constitution. In this case, the Speaker Pro Tempore in office at the conclusion of the previous Senate’s last meeting shall chair the first meeting of the newly elected Senate, and shall preside until a new Vice President has been ratified.”

Be Amended to

“Section 706: If the newly elected President and Vice President resign from their positions prior to being sworn into office, the President and Vice President ticket with the next highest number of votes shall assume the position of President and Vice President. If no other President and Vice President tickets exist, the Speaker of the Senate ticket with the highest votes shall take on the office of the President. If the Speaker of the Senate ticket resigns prior to being sworn into office, the Speaker of the Senate ticket with the next highest votes shall assume the responsibilities and office of the Speaker of the Senate. If the Speaker of the Senate resigns before being sworn into office and there are no other Speaker of the Senate Tickets, the newly elected Speaker Pro Tempore shall assume the office of the Speaker of the Senate or any offices thereof.

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That these amendments take effect as to coincide with the execution of the 2017-2018 ASCSU general election as outline by the ASCSU Constitution; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the respective bylaws of each branch and elections code reflect these changes upon this bills implementation; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the Speaker Pro Tempore of the 46th Senate draft Job descriptions for the position of President, Vice-President and Speaker of the Senate to be presented for approval by the Senate before the 47th Senate; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to Dr. Anthony Frank, President of CSU; Dr. Blanche Hughes, Vice President of Student Affairs; Bruce Mann, ASCSU Adviser; Kim Grubbs, ASCSU Adviser; and Daniela Pineda Soraca, President of ASCSU

15-5-0

10/26/2016

PASSAGE

DATE



10/27/16

PRESIDENT DANIELA PINEDA SORACA

DATE

TAGS: Vice President, Speaker of the Senate Vice President, Constitution, Amendment