

Resolution to Create a Board of Advisors for MIT EECS GSA

Sponsors: Jennifer M. Roberts*, Paul Hsu†, Stephen M. Hou‡

Approved by the Executive Committee on March 12, 2007 (12 for, 0 against, 6 abstaining).

Approved by a General Body Meeting on March 12, 2007 (25 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining).

Motivation

As EECS GSA grows and evolves, there should be a mechanism for ensuring that the Association has institutional memory. We'd like to create a Board of Advisors to serve this role. Furthermore, the Board would generally be a more neutral and experienced group to handle the election of new Officers than the outgoing Officers would be.

Legislation

Be it enacted that, effective immediately after the election of Officers in April 2007, the Bylaws of the EECS GSA shall be amended such that:

1. Article V (Vacancies) shall be renumbered to Article VI (Vacancies).
2. Article IV (Election Details) shall be renumbered to Article V (Election Details).
3. Article III (General Voting Procedures) shall be renumbered to Article IV (General Voting Procedures).
4. All references to Articles, Sections, and Clauses in those Articles shall be updated accordingly.
5. The following Article shall be added:

Article III. Board of Advisors

Section III–1. Duties

The Board of Advisors (or “Advisory Board”) shall ensure the continuity of the spirit, principles and history of the Association, advise and mentor active Association Members, maintain the Constitution and By-Laws, administer the election of Association Officers, and assume other duties as requested by the Executive Committee or by legislation, such as interpreting Association documents and exercising judicial powers.

*jenmarie@mit.edu

†bohsu@mit.edu

‡shou@mit.edu

Section III–2. Membership

The Board shall consist of members whose term of office shall be the same as that of the Officers with whom they serve. No member of the Board may hold any other position in the Association concurrently, and assumption of any other position shall result in immediate termination of Board membership. Any Member of the Association is eligible to be a member of the Board. Members of the Board shall be individually nominated by any Officer which must be seconded by another Officer, and confirmed by a two-thirds vote of a General Body Meeting at which quorum is reached. Nominations may also be made by Officers-elect, and Board membership takes effect when the Officers-elect take office. Removal of Board members from office shall follow the same procedure as that of removing the Officers.

Section III–3. Operations

The Board may call its own meetings and determine its own operating guidelines. The Board shall elect a Chair from among its members. Decisions of the Board shall be made by majority vote.

6. Article IV (renumbered to Article V), Section 1, lists several responsibilities of the Officers in administering the Elections of Officers. Since this responsibility is transferred to the Advisory Board, the following clauses shall be amended in the following manner:

- (a) Clause 2: “The outgoing set of Officers” becomes “The Board of Advisors”.
- (b) Clause 2: “The Secretary shall announce” becomes “The Board of Advisors shall be responsible for announcing”
- (c) Clause 3: “the Executive Committee” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.
- (d) Clause 4: “the Secretary” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.
- (e) Clause 6: “the Officers” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.
- (f) Clause 7: “the Officers” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.
- (g) Clause 8: “the Officers” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.
- (h) Clause 8: “the outgoing set of Officers” becomes “the Board of Advisors”.

7. Article IV (renumbered to Article V), Section 1, Clause 9 currently reads:

If the President does not participate in the election, he or she shall preside over the election.
If the President participates in an Officer election, he or she shall appoint someone to preside.

It shall be amended to read:

The Board of Advisors shall preside over the election, or appoint others, with the approval of a General Body Meeting, to do so in its place or to assist it. If any member of the Board participates in the election, he or she may not be involved in presiding over the election.