Women’s Advocacy Committee Bylaws

Article I. Purpose
The Women’s Advocacy Committee (hereafter WAC) is a Senate standing committee that exists to identify and address issues related to women on and around campus and to advocate on behalf of women to promote success, support, safety and equality. This committee shall closely communicate and collaborate with the UWM Women’s Resource Center (WRC), Equity and Diversity Services, the Office of the Dean of Students and UWM administration.

Article II. Membership

Section 2.01 Voting Members
For each semester in which they serve on the WAC, each student member shall be enrolled as at least a half-time student, and pay segregated fees. The voting membership of the WAC shall consist of: Six (6) student voting members, one (1) staff voting member from the Women’s Resource Center, and two (2) ex-officio non-voting members.

(i) Four (4) student Senators, one seat being reserved for the Women’s Advocacy Senator and the remainder appointed by the Senate.

(ii) Two (2) At-Large Students, selected through the Shared Governance process.

1) Priority for one of these seats shall go towards a student who is enrolled in a Women’s Studies class.

(iii) One (1) staff member of the Women’s Resource Center.

(iv) A representative of the UWM Women’s Studies Department shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member.

(v) The Student Association Vice President of Student Affairs shall serve as an ex-officio non-voting member.

Section 2.02 Removal of Members
Members may be removed for;

(i) Failure to fulfill responsibilities.

(ii) Failure to comply with the attendance policy. During its first meeting, the WAC shall vote on an attendance policy in order to hold members accountable.

(iii) Membership may be removed by two-thirds vote of the Committee.
1) Appeals of removal are to be handled in accordance with the SA Constitution and relevant branch bylaws.

(iv) A motion to remove a committee member must be presented to the committee at a meeting at least two weeks prior to the meeting in which the motion will be voted upon.

(v) Written notice of potential removal shall be given to all appropriate parties, including the committee member to be removed and the speaker of the committee, at the time the motion is initially presented to the committee.

Article III. Operation

Section 3.01 Meeting Rules
The WAC shall operate under the most recent edition of Robert’s Rules of Order. Meeting times and dates shall be set at the discretion of the Chair. The Meetings shall adhere to Wisconsin Open Meetings Law.

Section 3.02 Chair
Priority for the Chair position of the WAC shall be offered to the Women’s Advocacy Senator, who shall call the first meeting. If the Women’s Advocacy Senator is unable or declines, the Vice President of Student Affairs shall call the first meeting, where the WAC shall elect a Chair from its membership. The Chair shall propose the agenda for each subsequent meeting and appoint someone to take minutes at each meeting.

Section 3.03 Vice Chair
The WAC shall elect a Vice Chair from its membership. The Vice Chair shall preside over the meeting in the absence of the Chair. The Vice Chair shall also perform duties and tasks as designated by the Chair.

Section 3.04 Open Forum
At least once per academic year, the WAC shall convene in a special meeting for the sole purpose of providing UW-Milwaukee women a forum to voice concerns and raise questions.

Article IV. Enactment
These bylaws shall be ratified by a two-thirds vote by the Senate and signed by the President.

Article V. Amendments
Any amendment to these bylaws shall be made by a two-thirds vote of the Senate and signed by the President.

Ryan Sorensen
Student Association President

Date 11/20/14
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